

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 March 1808.

Letter from
Major-General
St. Leger.

It did not appear that any exertion or movement of any kind had been made during ten days. The Vizier's officer shewed me no attention or instance of civility; and I was informed by Captain Mockler, had the insolence to say he supposed I was going to attack Bhurtpore.

I also went by Buddree, which appeared to me, as I passed it, a strong place, more so than many I have seen, and to require a proper body of troops, officers of experience, and formidable artillery for its reduction.

The Aumil, I am told, was at a little distance, though I saw nothing of him or any of his people. The officer in command of a company from Pertaubghur was posted at a distance of about four miles, where I saw him before I reached Buddree. The fort and country round it appeared in a state of most perfect tranquillity.

But I think it right to observe (if I may credit the accounts I collected on the spot), the oppressions and exaction of the Aumils are very great, and such as may have a tendency to provoke resistance and put the country in arms.

I shall be happy, Sir, to co-operate in any wish of yours where my duty will permit; but when I consider the nature of the service you propose, how late the season is, and what appeared to me an almost total want of preparation on the part of those who are principally concerned, I cannot act better, in my own judgment, than submit the decision to superior power.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahan
thirteen coss from Cawnpore,
19th February 1808.

(Signed) WILLIAM ST. LEGER,
Major-General, commanding
the army in the field.

On the 4th March the following letter was ordered to be written, in reply, to the Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Secretary
to Government.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch under date the 22d ultimo, reporting your proceedings in consequence of a requisition from his Excellency the Vizier for the assistance of a battering train for the reduction of certain forts within his Excellency's dominions, and to signify to you the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council's approbation of the measures which you adopted on that occasion.

The Governor-General in Council is of opinion, that as, by the stipulations of the subsisting treaty with the Nawaub Vizier, his Excellency is entitled to expect that the military aid which is demanded on his part shall be furnished, it is very desirable that such additional force as may be requisite for the purpose of the service on which the troops are to be employed should be detached from Elahabad without any delay, provided that the adoption of the measure shall not appear to the officer commanding in the field to be liable to objection, as likely to be productive of considerable inconvenience, with reference to the probable effect on the health of the troops from the employment of them on the proposed duty at the period of the year to which these operations may be unavoidably protracted. As, however, in the advanced state of the season, some apprehensions may justly be entertained on that point, the request of his Lordship in Council has been signified to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that a discretion may be left with the officer commanding in the field to furnish the additional force immediately or not until after the close of the rainy season, as under this consideration circumstances shall appear to him to render it expedient to adopt the one or the other of those alternatives. This communication of the resolutions of Government on the subject of your despatch will enable you, in the event of the reinforcement not being immediately supplied

supplied agreeably to the requisition of the Vizier, to satisfy his Excellency with respect to the causes of the delay.

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I have, &c.

Fort William,
4th March 1808.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 18th April 1808.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 April 1808.

Extract from the proceedings of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, in the Military Department, under date the 4th April 1808.

To Major-General St. Leger, commanding the Troops in the Field, Cawnpore.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day received from the Commanding Officer at Pertaubghur, together with a translation of a letter addressed to that officer by Rajah Newaz Sing, Aumil of Pertaubghur.

2. I am sorry to observe in the enclosed documents a statement of the conduct of Zalim Sing, so opposite to that which was conveyed to me by his Excellency the Vizier on a very recent occasion, and so demonstrative of the serious necessity of adopting rigorous measures against that rebellious Zemindar.

3. As I presume that the result of your reference to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the subject of my letter, under date the 17th March, must be known by this time, and must authorize your compliance with the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier, it is unnecessary for me to offer any remarks in addition to the detailed information which will be conveyed to you by the enclosed despatch from Major Knox.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Lucknow,
19th March 1808.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you, that in consequence of a representation from the Aumil, Rajah Newaz Sing, stating that Zalim Sing, Talookdar of Buddree, and Dan Sing, Talookdar of Gowra, had withheld the payment of the Kista due on their lands from the beginning of Koor to the end of Phaugin, and applying for British troops to enforce the discharge of the arrears, or eventually for the reduction of the forts of the above refractory Zemindars, I despatched perwannahs addressed to those persons, copies of which, and of the answers thereto, are herewith transmitted for your information.

2. Having communicated to Rajah Newaz Sing the substance of the answer returned by Zalim Sing, he was desirous of a personal conference with me on the subject; and for that purpose came yesterday twice to my quarters. During his last visit I received Dan Sing's reply, which was immediately made known to the Rajah.

3. The assertions made by the Aumil in his observations on Zalim Sing's answer were now repeated in his remarks upon that of Dan Sing; to wit, that there was not a word of truth in it. He insisted that neither of those Talookdars could be brought to pay the revenues by any means short of the employment of our troops for the reduction of their forts, or at least of one of them; that they were old incorrigible rebels; and that, if an immediate example should not be made of them, nearly the whole of the renters in his districts would

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Letter from
Major Knox.

would be emboldened to withhold payment of their assessments, to the almost total loss of the revenue for the current year.

4. In my reply I told the Aumil that, from the information he had given me on former occasions, the inference he had now drawn could not be well admitted: that if the chastisement of three or four refractory Talookdars possessed of forts should be postponed, on account of the excessive and growing heat of the season, it did not necessarily follow that it would be impossible, or even difficult, to enforce payment of the revenues from all those who had not the same means of resistance. To this the Rajah replied, that if the fort of Zalim Sing were not reduced, not a man would give him a rupee, and that he should lose twenty lacs. He added, that provided a sufficient force were sent against Zalim Sing, he would submit on its appearance before his fort. I asked him what force he would consider adequate to this service; and he gave his opinion, that there ought not to be less than two battalions of infantry, six battering guns, and five hundred cavalry. This opinion I requested him to put in writing; which, after a short consultation with his people, and reducing the number of infantry and guns, he assented to, and presented me a letter, of which a transcript is inserted in the accompanying paper. Upon the number of troops stated by him as necessary for this service, I remarked that they could not be furnished from this post: to which he made answer, that the district of Sooltanpore was now so well managed, that the whole of the battalion stationed there might be ordered against Buddree without prejudice to the revenue of that quarter.

I have now laid before you the substance of what passed between me and the Aumil on the great object of his visit. He urged and reurged the necessity of the immediate reduction of Buddree, and maintained that any postponement of this measure would occasion the loss of nearly the whole revenue of the country under his management. This statement will, I imagine, appear to you to be extravagantly exaggerated. Admitting a delay in chastising Zalim Sing may encourage one or two more in the possession of forts to delay payment of their assessments, it seems not at all credible that the great majority of landholders, who have no place of strength for the security of their persons and property, can be excited by such temporary conformity to a conduct that would bring on themselves immediate and unavoidable punishment. Newaz Sing, in a precipitate eagerness to exact the collections, overlooks every other consideration; and for the most trifling portion of the revenue would expose our troops to service of that nature, which at this season would be highly destructive to the Europeans employed on it.

With respect to the force recommended by the Aumil for the reduction of Buddree, though I have no doubt that one considerably less would, at a proper time of the year, be adequate to the service, yet if this measure should be judged by you to demand immediate execution, I beg leave to offer my opinion of its being advisable to employ the whole of the force specified by the Aumil, with the addition of two howitzers. A force of that strength would possibly intimidate Zalim Sing to immediate submission; or, in the event of resistance, expedite the fall of his fort.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
15th March 1808,

(Signed) W. D. Knox,
Major, commanding.

Letter from
Rajah Newaz Sing.

Translation of a Letter from Rajah Newaz Sing to Major Knox, dated 15th Mohurram, or 14th March 1808.

(After the usual compliments.)

A force, consisting of a battalion and a half of Sepoys, five hundred cavalry, and four battering guns, is judged to be requisite for the subjection of Zalim Sing, the Talookdar of Buddree, purgunnah Behar, and for the purpose of destroying his forts. If such a force be employed he will speedily be brought to a proper sense of his duty. Your own judgment, however, respecting the extent

extent of the force, must be far more correct than mine, and ought to be the rule of your conduct; but it is necessary to be expeditious in this affair, otherwise a great loss of revenue must be sustained, and all will be disorder and confusion. I have written this for your information.

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A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Knox, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

Major-General St. Leger, commanding in the field, having determined, in concert with the Resident at Lucknow, upon the necessity of adopting rigorous measures against Zalim Sing, the rebellious Talookdar of Buddree purgunnah, and of reducing the fort in his possession, I have it in command to acquaint you, that the following detail of troops, in addition to the battering train published in Field Army Orders of this day, are to be employed on that service :

Letter from
Assistant
Deputy Adjutant-
General.

Two squadrons of the 7th Regiment of Native Cavalry with one galloper.

Seven companies of the first battalion of the 12th Regiment, including the five companies now at Pertaubghur.

Eight companies of the second battalion of the 12th Regiment, with their field pieces.

The whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory.

I am further directed to express the Major-General's desire, that ~~five~~ companies from Pertaubghur may be detached to Elahabad without loss of time, to receive charge of, and proceed from thence as an escort with the battering train to Buddree, in the vicinity of which fort the remainder of the troops destined for the subjection of Zalim Sing are to be assembled forthwith, and to put themselves under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory.

I have, &c.

Deputy Adjutant-General's Office, (Signed) H. CASEMENT,
Head-Quarters in the field, Cawnpore, Assistant Deputy Adjutant-General.
20th March 1808.

To Major Fagan, Acting Adjutant-General.

Sir :

I have the honour to transmit, for the Commander-in-Chief's information, the enclosed copies of letters, &c., which I have this day received from Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, commanding the troops before Buddree, and which I request you will immediately lay before his Excellency.

Letter from
Major-General
St. Leger.

I have, &c.

Cawnpore, (Signed) W. ST. LEGER,
8th April 1808. Major-General commanding in the field.

To Captain Casement, Acting Deputy Adjutant-General.

Sir :

I have the honour to enclose you a copy of my despatch of yesterday's date to the Resident at Lucknow, for the purpose of being laid before the Major-General commanding in the field. In addition to its contents, I beg leave to report that the fortress of Buddree is an oblong square, with six circular bastions, and a rampart from twenty to twenty-five feet high, about eighteen feet thick, surrounded by a ditch about eighteen feet broad and nearly as much in depth: round the fort is a renny wall of the same form, about ten feet high, with a ditch from eight to ten feet broad. There are two embrasures in the north face of this wall, but no guns.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Gregory.

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Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Gregory.

The fort is accessible to the north and west : the other two sides are covered with thick jungle.

It appears to me that there is great oppression carried on by the native collectors, as, from the respectable force with me, the Zemindars are daily coming in to me for protection.

I take the liberty of enclosing the Talookdar's, Zalim Sing, statement of the circumstances between him and the Aumil, not having a person here that can translate it.

I am endeavouring all I can to bring their affairs to a settlement ; as, if I should be compelled to open trenches, I am apprehensive I should lose half of my men from the unfavourableness of the season.

I have, &c.

Camp near Behar,
5th April 1808.

(Signed) R. B. GREGORY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Gregory.

To J. Baillic, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you of my arrival at this place, and two miles from the fortress of Buddree. I yesterday, accompanied by Lieutenant Robertson of the Engineers, rode down to reconnoitre the fortress. The Talookdar, Zalim Sing, on hearing of my being near, sent out a message to me, to say I need not reconnoitre, but go in and take a view of it, which I did : and on my approach he threw himself at my feet imploring for mercy, and declared it was never his wish to rebel against his sovereign, and he had agreed to pay his revenue.

At the same time he observed that he had been oppressed by the Aumil, who, from certain causes, wishes to dispossess him of the land revenue that has been held for ages by his family, in favour of Mohun Loll, a turbulent, troublesome man of some consequence, and owner of several forts, the principal of which is Putgawah with seventeen guns in it, and it is daily undergoing repairs for its better defence.

I beg leave to suggest to you my opinion of the propriety of insisting on this man, Mohun Loll, giving up his guns, from his being already in the continual habit of endeavouring to promote rebellion ; and I have not the smallest doubt, if he is allowed to go on in his career, but that he will, from his power in the district, throw it altogether into rebellion and discontent, from the oppressive measures he has adopted.

He is now in camp, and if I am allowed I will seize him, and make him give up his guns, or send him to his Excellency the Vizier. It was only the day before yesterday that he sent two hundred matchlockmen and twenty-five horsemen to the brother of Zalim Sing, who is at variance with his brother ; and even further, he advised Zalim Sing to fire on my force, in order to gain his object of dispossessing him.

As for Rajah Newaz Sing, I have repeatedly written for his attendance on me, but to no effect. Indeed, he has now had fifteen days' notice from me, and is putting me off from day to day.

The Dewan at this place is always in a state of intoxication, and my detachment is in great distress for provisions, none having been provided previous to my arrival : so much so, that my tent was surrounded all day yesterday by sepoys, and none has come in this morning.

I beg leave to transmit you the enclosed statements from Zalim Sing and the Aumil, for your consideration ; and I hope you will obtain an order from his Highness the Vizier, so as to prevent the effusion of innocent blood.

I have, &c.

Camp near Behar,
4th April 1808.

(Signed) R. B. GREGORY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding the Detachment.

Translation

Translation of an Arzee from Zalim Sing, Proprietor of the District of Buddree, to Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, dated 2d April 1808.

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Consultations,
18 April 1808;

—
Arzee
from Zalim Sing:

Having performed the ceremonies of humble salutations, it is represented to you that the state of affairs is this: that my Vakeel, Deena Sing, having waited upon you and learnt how matters were, has come to me, and informed me that Rajah Newaz Sing, at the instigation of Mohun Loll Oopudhea, has caused an English battalion and artillery to march against me. What power does your servant possess, and what is my fort, that the British troops should march against it; for I am obedient to your commands, and will perform whatever you wish? My preparing a house is for my protection from my brethren in the neighbourhood, and not to oppose the British troops. I am in every way ready to obey your orders and pay the revenue of Government.

The circumstances attending the settlement of the revenue for the present year are these: that Rajah Newaz Sing, in the commencement of his government, authorized his brother, Jya Sing, Aumil of the purgunnah of Nuhar, to settle the revenue to be paid by me. The said Aumil, by the directions of Government, voluntarily agreed that I should pay my revenue directly to Government. Your servant caused the Zemindars and Ryots of the district to submit to authority, and was content with the allowance agreed to be given me by Government for my subsistence. The written agreement of this settlement, with the seal of the Aumil, is in the possession of Doorga Persaud, Kanoongoe of the said purgunnah: procure it and do justice. To that settlement I also agree.

The circumstances of the settlement of the last year are, that Captain Jalun was on command here, and I settled the revenue I was to pay, and for the payment of it procured a receipt from Meerza Beechoo Beg, commandant. The said Meerza is in the Rajah's camp: inquire of him how I paid my revenue. According to that settlement, also, I am ready to pay my revenue.

The statement of the settlement of the revenue paid by me for the year before last is this: that Mr. (Lieutenant-Colonel) D'Auvergne was in command here, and I settled my revenue, and agreeably to the orders of the English Buhadoors, gave up possession of my house to Government. Two or three days afterwards, the English Buhadoors, from my conduct as a Ryot, took compassion on me, and by their taking me by the hand again put me in possession of my house. The said Oopudhea, to obtain payment of the revenue of Government, from animosity placed my family in Shunpoor, in a small fort belonging to one of my adversaries, Ajoodheea Bukhsh, to be released when I paid the revenue of Government. I, from helplessness, ~~agreed to this~~ also, and paid the revenue justly due to Government, and ~~obtained relief from~~ further demands. Inquire into this from my adversaries. I am ready to pay my revenue according to that settlement also.

Your servant is in every respect ready (to pay his revenue) according to the three settlements, and to obey the English Buhadoors. Rajah Newaz Sing, at the instigation of Oopudhea, obstructs the settlement of your servant's revenue. The account of the animosity between me and Oopudhea is this: that he has taken possession of the fort of Audhea by force, which belonged to the zemindar of your servant's ancestors. With this I am dissatisfied; wherefore Oopudhea is hostile to me to such a height, that when I was going with my family to bathe in the month of October, the said Oopudhea and men belonging to my adversaries waited treacherously for me with a piece of artillery loaded with grape, at a rivulet near the river Ganges; but the Subadar of the Sircar (meaning probably a Subadar of the battalion commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory) has seen that place. God is beneficent, and acquainted me beforehand; and having proceeded in another direction, I bathed and returned to my house. He (Oopudhea) was ashamed, and having hatred in his heart, from enmity injured me in my right as Zemindar of that fort, and has given four villages belonging to it to my adversaries; and by confirming them in the possession, has made me every way despair of my right as Zemindar. In this manner he has marked my liver with the scar of regret.

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Arzee
from Zalim Sing.

regret. Being helpless I have been patient. God will give your servant the reward of his patience; or you, who are the most just of the age, and his Highness (the Nawaub Vizier) will do me justice. He (Oopudhea) by his instigation, has brought the British and his Highness's force upon me, who am weak, that he may ruin me. What power have I to be saucy to my patron. I am in every way obedient to the orders of Government, and ready to pay my revenue. I hope you will do me justice, and allow me to inhabit my house, for it is better that I should shew my loyalty; if not, favour me with my dismissal from Government, and by your high auspices, wherever it may be, I will obtain a livelihood, and your good name will remain to eternity.

Secondly. I represent that it happened lately, when you arrived in the purgunnah of Nuhar, that Dewan Ajoodhea Persaud and Jya Sing, Aumil of the said purgunnah, and Subadar Sumer Sing, a servant of the Sircar, were sitting near your tent, when, in the mean time, Oopudhea Mohun Loll came; Deena Sing and Mookum Sing, my Vakeels, were also there; when, in the interim, the Dewan and the said Aumil waited upon you by your desire, and Oopudhea and the said Subadar remained sitting, when Oopudhea said to my Vakeels, "Look now, what a calamity I have brought upon you." My Vakeels replied, by mentioning what a calamity Seetulabukhsh, the Rajah's brother, brought upon me at the bathing time in October, and said, "You have given a bribe of twenty thousand rupees, now, to the Rajah, and brought him here." He (Oopudhea) replied, "What is twenty thousand rupees to punish you: I will expend fifty thousand rupees, even to fifty lacs of rupees, to ruin you." My Vakeels answered, "Why do you pursue me so much to extirpate me, for my master, on Government giving him his dismissal, will retire from his chiefship and zemindaree." He (Oopudhea) said, "How far will you go, for I will pursue you from the sea-shore at Jagurnauth to the west? We are eight men in our house, and in opposing you until seven out of eight be killed, we will not be neglectful of our designs against you." This conversation between the parties happened near your tent, before the Subadar of the Sircar: if you do not credit it, inquire about it from the Subadar of your own Sircar. O! most just of the age, it appears impossible there should be any room for me to escape from so violent an enemy. I hope that I may be favoured with my dismissal from the Sircar (of the Nawaub), that I may live wherever it may be requisite to obtain a livelihood. It was incumbent on me to make this representation. May the sun of your prosperity continue shining and resplendent.

Statement of the Amount of the Revenue of my District, which Oopudhea, from many years of Enmity, has caused to be written down in the Papers of the Sircar (of the Nawaub) at thirty-five thousand Rupees.

In the preceding year I procured a receipt from Meerza Beechoo Beg, commandant, for twenty-five thousand rupees. In the year before last, when my family, until I should pay my revenue, were in a small fort belonging to my adversaries, for twenty-four thousand rupees, which you may ascertain from them.

Oopudhea has given a bad name to my house, even in the presence (of the Nawaub); but there is no account taken of a large fort which he has built at Bhugwan and mounted guns upon it.

I have fully represented to you the whole of my obedient conduct as a subject, and the enmity of Oopudhea to me; and I hope, from your favour and kindness, that you will by every means cause me, undisturbed, to inhabit my house. More would be transgressing the bounds of respect.

A true translation :

(Signed) W. STURROCK,
Persian Translator.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing letter and enclosures from Major-General St. Leger, and of such parts of the despatch from that officer, dated the

the 21st March, as relate to the communication from the Resident at Lucknow, and to the instructions furnished in consequence to Major Knox, be transmitted to the Political Department for consideration and orders.

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Consultations,
18 April 1808.

(Signed) J. THORNHILL,
Secretary.

Ordered, That in consequence of the foregoing extract from the Military Department, the following instructions be addressed to the Resident at Lucknow :

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government

1. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council has received a copy of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory's letter to your address, under date the 4th instant.

2. His Lordship in Council deems it highly probable that the representation of the Talookdar of Buddree, Zalim Sing, is well founded, and is extremely anxious to avoid the necessity of prosecuting measures of coercion against the Talookdar, which, under such circumstances, might bear the character of measures directed to the support and encouragement of injustice and oppression. It is to be feared, that the employment of the British troops for the suppression of disorders within the territories of the Vizier, has too frequently been occasioned by the misconduct of his Excellency's Aumils in exciting these disorders by their injustice and rapacity ; at the same time Government is aware that requisitions for the employment of our troops on such occasions could not be rejected, consistently with the obligations of the engagements subsisting between the British Government and the State of Oude. The origin of the evil is the vicious system of his Excellency's administration. But although no remedy for this evil appears to be immediately practicable, it is extremely desirable that the necessity of coercive measures should, in all practicable cases, be superseded by the adoption of a system of proceeding, which would bring to light any acts of oppression and injustice on the part of those public officers, whose authority the British arms are required to support, and would subject the perpetrators to punishment, or to the legitimate restraints of the local Government.

3. In the present case, the Governor-General in Council desires that you will suggest to his Excellency, the absolute necessity of instituting an investigation into the circumstances stated by Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, representing to his Excellency the impropriety of employing the British troops in arduous military operations, without previously ascertaining the justice of the cause in which they are to be engaged, and the importance of avoiding, if possible, the necessity of undertaking them, by endeavouring to effect an adjustment of the disputes which have occasioned the late application for the service of the British troops. At the same time, it will be highly expedient that you should satisfy yourself of the efficiency and impartiality of the means which his Excellency may adopt for the purposes above described ; and, with this view, it might be advisable that a proper person should be despatched on the part of the Vizier, in the capacity of an Ameen, to investigate the circumstances stated by Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, and that he should be accompanied by a person on your part to be joined in the commission. This measure, however, is merely suggested for your consideration, leaving it to your discretion, regulated by local circumstances, to propose it to his Excellency.

4. The Governor-General in Council has no doubt that your immediate attention will have been directed to that part of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory's letter to your address, which relates to the deficiency of supplies for the subsistence of the troops under his command, and that you will have urged the

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Vizier to issue the most positive orders for the provision of the requisite supplies.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
18th April 1808.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government.

Ordered, That a copy of the above letter be sent for information to the Military Department, in reply to the reference from that department of the 4th instant.

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Consultations,
16 May 1808.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 16th May 1808.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government, &c.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 18th ultimo, conveying the sentiments and commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council on the subject of a despatch to my address from Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, commanding a detachment of the British troops employed within the district of Behar.

2. Of the frequent misconduct and oppression of a great majority, if not the whole of the Vizier's Aumils, and of the radical vices and defects of the general system of his Excellency's administration, no person can be more sensible than I am; and hence the employment of the British troops in support of the authority of his Excellency's Aumils, without a careful and minute investigation of all the circumstances of the case (although the necessity for this measure has but rarely occurred since my appointment to the Residency) has been constantly the subject of my peculiar anxiety and concern.

3. With a reference, however, to the particular case of Zalim Sing, Talookdar of Buddree, I have great satisfaction in assuring you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that the measures which have been adopted against that person, were, in my opinion, unquestionably just and expedient, and such as I should have thought it my duty to pursue, having already frequently adopted them, under the orders of the British Government, with a reference to our own Zemindars.

4. The known bad character of Rajah Newaz Sing, Aumil of Behar, and the circumstances, under my immediate observation, which attended his emancipation from a gaol to take the management of an extensive and populous province, had rendered me extremely desirous to postpone, and had even induced me to evade, for a time, the employment of the British troops in operations of any consequence for the support of that Aumil's authority, in the hope that the early failure of his engagements to the Vizier would have tended to convince his sovereign of the impropriety of the appointment of such a person to an office of high trust and importance, and would have operated to produce his recall.

5. Accordingly, it was not until a period of several weeks had elapsed from the date of the Vizier's requisition, until a correspondence of considerable extent had taken place with his Excellency, and with the Commanding Officer at Pertaubghur, and until a minute inquiry from several other persons had convinced me of the necessity for the reduction of Buddree, independently of the truth or falsehood of the Aumil's statement, that I at length considered it to be my duty to recommend those measures of coercion with a reference to the Talookdar, Zalim Sing, which have terminated in so satisfactory a manner.

6. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy of my reply to Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory's despatch, under date the 4th ultimo, together with copies of three other letters which I have more recently addressed to that officer; and I have further the satisfaction of reporting to you, for the Go-

vernor-

vernor-General's information, that according to accounts received last night from the Vizier, the Talookdar, Zalim Sing, has been reinstated in the possession of his villages at a more moderate than the former assessment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 May 1808.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory's representations on the important subject of his supplies have, of course, been most regularly attended to, and my repeated remonstrances on this subject to the Vizier, if his Excellency's written assurances and those of his Aumil can be credited, have produced the desired effect; although the mutual complaints of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory and Rajah Newaz Sing against each other have continued without intermission since the commencement of the military operations, and have lately formed the principal subject of discussion between his Excellency the Vizier and me.

8. An inquiry into the conduct of the Aumil has appeared to us both to be indispensable, owing to some accusations of a very serious nature which Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory has recently preferred; and I shall use my best endeavours to ensure the impartiality of this investigation, and the exemplary punishment of the Aumil, if the charges against him shall be proved.

9. At the same time, it is my duty to remark to you the extreme jealousy of his Excellency the Vizier with regard to all investigations of this nature, and to every degree of interference between him and his courtiers and Aumils on my part, or between his Aumils and Zemindars, or other subjects, on the part of the commanding officers of the troops who are employed in the support of his authority and in preserving the peace of his dominions.

10. It is generally reported and believed, and I have no reason to doubt the information which I possess on this subject, that all his Excellency's Aumils and Zemindars, and indeed his subjects at large, have been prohibited, under severe penalties, from holding any intercourse with British officers, and that they are encouraged and excited by his Excellency's news-writers and agents in the several districts of the interior to prefer false or frivolous complaints against the British officers and soldiers.

11. A few striking instances of the latter nature have been brought to my immediate notice by one of his Excellency's Aumils, Meerza Mehdi Alee Khan, whom I have reason to consider as now suffering the effects of his sovereign's resentment for his supposed attachment to our Government.

12. The general system of his Excellency's conduct and manners to all those of his courtiers and others around him, who have been in the habit of visiting at the British Residency and are supposed to look up to the British Government for support, affords a melancholy but unquestionable proof of the disposition to which I have alluded, which has been ascribed to him by all my predecessors in office since his Excellency's accession to the Musnud, and which I have laboured by every conciliatory method, though hitherto unsuccessfully, to correct.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
2d May 1808.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, commanding the Detachment at Buddree.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 4th instant, the substance of which, with copies of its Persian enclosures, have been duly submitted for the consideration of his Excellency the Vizier.

2. As no complaints of disaffection or rebellion on the part of Oopudhea Mohun Loll have hitherto been preferred to his Excellency by the Aumil of Pertanbghur, his Excellency was averse to authorizing the measures of rigour against that person which are suggested in your letter to my address, on the ground of Zalim Sing's representation alone, which, as his Excellency very justly observed, might be attributed to personal motives; but, on a further and more mature consideration of the remarks which I offered on this occasion,

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

sion, his Excellency has been induced to concur in opinion with you, regarding the expediency of reducing the power of Mohun Loll, by requiring the surrender of his several fortresses and guns, and by eventually depriving him of the means of exciting commotion or rebellion.

3. His Excellency has accordingly authorized and directed his Aumil to make the necessary requisition to Mohun Loll for the surrender of his fortresses and guns without any delay; and in the case of his failure to comply with this requisition, the Aumil has been directed to apply for your aid to enforce the surrender and to insure the demolition of the forts.

4. The enclosed mandate from his Excellency to Rajah Newaz Sing is transmitted open for your perusal and guidance; and you will be pleased to transmit the letter to Newaz Sing, and subsequently to adopt such measures, in concert with that Aumil, for the reduction of the power of Mohun Loll, as may appear to you to be advisable.

5. With a reference to the recent statements and professions of Zalim Sing, his Excellency the Vizier has with great justice observed, that the existence of the fortress of Buddree in its present condition, after having been formerly razed to the ground, and the repeated complaints, not only of the present and every former Aumil of the district, but also of the several Zemindars and Talookdars in the neighbourhood of Buddree, whose villages and lands have been constantly the scene of Zalim Sing's depredations and extortions, afford the clearest and most satisfactory proof of the utter falsehood of his statements and of the insincerity of his present professions.

6. That, if it had never been the wish of Zalim Sing to rebel against the authority of his sovereign, to withhold the payment of his revenue, or to oppress the neighbouring Zemindars, there could be no occasion for the original construction of so strong a fortress as that of Buddree, nor more particularly for the repairs and increased strength of that fortress, subsequent to its reduction and dismantlement by the assistance of the British troops.

7. That, if the professions of Zalim Sing on the present occasion be sincere, he can have no hesitation in surrendering his fortress into your hands for the purpose of its demolition, in common with all the other strong holds in the district, not one of which should, in his Excellency's judgment, be permitted to remain; and that, on the condition of his surrendering his fortress and giving security for the payment of his balances of revenue and for his future submission and good conduct, he may still continue to inhabit his village, and to enjoy all the legal rights and privileges of a Zemindar, in common with the rest of his Excellency's peaceable subjects.

8. That, on the whole, there appears to be no ground of justice in favour of, and every ground of expedience against, an arrangement, on this occasion, with Zalim Sing, which shall leave him in the possession of Buddree; and accordingly his Excellency desires that you will consider the evacuation and demolition of the fortress of Buddree to be the first and most important object of the operations of the detachment under your command.

9. I indulge a confident hope, founded on the report of your conversation with Zalim Sing, that he will be induced to surrender the fortress of Buddree without any effusion of blood, and that the surrender of that fortress will lead to the evacuation of those possessed by Ajoodheah Bukhsh and Mohun Loll, and to the satisfactory settlement of the district.

10. His Excellency the Vizier has repeated his orders to Rajah Newaz Sing for the immediate attendance of that Aumil in your camp, and has censured him in severe terms for his delay, as well as for his inattention to the object of ensuring your regular supplies. His Excellency's mandate upon this subject to the Aumil is also enclosed, for your perusal and transmission to Newaz Sing.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
7th April 1808.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, commanding the Troops before Buddree.

Sir :

1. In transmitting to you the enclosed translations of documents which I have recently received from his Excellency the Vizier, I cannot avoid expressing my confident hope and belief, that the statements which they contain are either totally unfounded or have been very greatly exaggerated.

2. That an officer of your approved judgement and discretion, employed in the reduction of a fortress and suppression of a refractory Zemindar, should have encouraged that Zemindar to hope for your support in resisting the authority of the Aumil, or should have had any friendly intercourse with the Zemindar in question, till security for the surrender of his fortress and the payment of his revenues had been obtained, to your own satisfaction and to that of the Aumil, are circumstances in my mind totally incredible, and which I have no doubt of your being able to refute in the most satisfactory manner.

3. The object of your personal visit to Zalim Sing in the fortress of Buddree, as reported in your letter of the 4th instant, was doubtless the laudable purpose of inducing him to surrender his fort, and to conduct himself as a peaceable subject of the Vizier's Government, without requiring, on your own part, the measures of coercion and rigour which you were instructed ultimately to adopt ; and the conversation between you and Zalim Sing which is reported by his Excellency's news-writer, must, I conclude, have been subsequent to a promise of the immediate surrender of Buddree, or must have no foundation in truth.

4. The reported violence of your treatment of the Hircarrahs of Rajah Newaz Sing must also be destitute of foundation, or must have proceeded on satisfactory proof of a degree of treacherous conduct on their part, which rendered their immediate punishment indispensable to the success of the operations under your guidance.

5. I solicit the favour of an early communication from you of all the circumstances which have led to the statement of the Vizier's news-writer, with the view of enabling me to satisfy his Excellency of the inaccuracy of those statements, and to require from his justice the severe censure, or punishment, of the author of such injurious reports.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
12th April 1808.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Translation of a Paper of Intelligence from Rajah Newaz Sing's Camp, in the Pergunnah of Issoulie, dated 9th Suffer, 1223 Hijeree ; received from the Vizier the 11th April 1808.

Intelligence from
Rajah Newaz Sing's
Camp.

A letter directed to Rajah Newaz Sing arrived from his Dewan, Adjoodea Persaud, in Behar, stating that Colonel Gregory with another English gentleman went to the gate of the fort of Buddree, belonging to Zalim Sing, and were met by a man named Mohkum (the Vakeel of Zalim Sing), who presented five rupees as a nuzzer, which the Colonel refused, and said that his master was ready to pay his kists to the Sircar ; that the Colonel then leaving his horse at the gate went into the fort, and was met by Zalim Sing with a nuzzer ; that he embraced Zalim Sing and seated him upon a chair. Zalim Sing presented a horse which the Colonel declined to accept. Zalim Sing then presented a Persian paper which the Colonel put into his pocket, after which two gold mohurs were sent as a nuzzer from the zenanah, which the Colonel accepted. Zalim Sing then represented that he was occupied in the marriage of one of his daughters, and begged the Colonel would give him a berah paun, which the Colonel did, and told him to celebrate the marriage in security, for that the designs of the Aumil should not be permitted to succeed. After this the Colonel got up, when Zalim Sing fell at his feet. The Colonel consoled him, and told him to make known his wishes to Summer Sing, the Subadar, who had been with him before, and that the said Subadar would make the

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Intelligence from
Rajah Newaz Sing's
Camp.

Colonel acquainted with them. The writer further observed, that this being the state of things, the Rajah's early presence was necessary. In answer the Rajah wrote that he would quickly arrive, and that the Dewan must continue to furnish all supplies which might be wanted, so that no inconvenience should be experienced by the British troops.

Translation of another Paper of Intelligence, dated the 10th.

A letter arrived from Ajoodhea Persaud, stating that Sheo Loll, Jemmadar of the Rajah's Hircarrahs, went towards Buddree in search of wells, and was informed by an Aheer of Buddree that the Rajah Zalim Sing had caused them all to be filled up upon hearing of the approach of the English troops. Mohkum Sing and Duneah Sing, Vakeels of Zalim Sing, represented to Colonel Gregory that the abovementioned Hircarrah was inquiring into the state of the fort, &c. : upon this the Colonel was very angry, and sent a message to Ajoodhea Persaud to discharge him. Afterwards the Vakeels represented that four Hircarrahs of Newaz Sing who were with the Colonel carried information of their coming to camp, and of other occurrences, to Ajoodhea Persaud, the Rajah's Dewan. Upon hearing this the Colonel beat them very much and turned them away. The letter also stated, that Zalim Sing had sent his family with four elephants and his goods, under a guard of a hundred and fifty foot and fifteen horse, towards the Jumna, in the English territory; in consequence of which circumstances an advantageous settlement of the district did not appear to be probable, unless the Rajah should speedily arrive, when possibly something might be done.

In answer the Rajah wrote that he would come quickly.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, commanding the Detachment at Behar.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your several despatches noted in the margin,* the contents of which have been submitted to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. The evacuation of the fortress of Buddree is highly satisfactory to his Excellency, who approves of the terms which were granted by you to Zalim Sing, presuming of course, that you have obtained ample security for the liquidation of the balances of revenue which were due by that person, and for his future submissive conduct.

3. I solicit your acceptance of my congratulations on the surrender of the fortress of Buddree in a manner so satisfactory, with a reference to the public concerns, and so creditable to your own management; and I augur from this success, the speedy evacuation of all the other forts in the district, in an equally satisfactory manner.

4. The Vizier's positive orders have been issued to the Aumil of Pertaubghur for the immediate destruction of Buddree, and of every other fortress or ghurry which may hereafter be surrendered to, or taken by, the troops under your command, and made over to the Aumil; and I suggest the propriety of your adopting every measure in your power, to ensure the complete execution of his Excellency's orders on this point.

5. With a reference to the vague and unfounded reports of your proceedings in the fortress of Buddree, and of your violence towards the Vizier's Hircarrahs, which were stated in the akhbars from Pertaubghur, I have not failed to represent in strong terms to his Excellency the improper conduct of his newswriters, and to suggest the necessity for their punishment in an exemplary manner, to deter others from inventing or circulating similar injurious reports.

6. The

* Dated the 16th, 19th and 21st April 1808.

6. The disavowal of the truth of those reports by a written instrument under the seal of Rajah Newaz Sing or his Dewan, which was promised in your despatch of the 19th instant, will serve to remove any doubt or hesitation in the mind of his Excellency, regarding the justice of the punishment which I have suggested; but for the present, I am sorry to observe that the unaccountable persistance of the Aumil, his Dewan, and of the news-writers, in asserting the circumstances of Zalim Sing's having removed, not only the whole of his private property, but also the crops recently cut in his farms, and even the guns and stores in his fortress, for the purpose of evading the payment of his revenues and exciting future disturbances, and of his being generally supported in those measures of opposition to the Aumil's authority by a Subadar of the detachment under your command, affords some ground of hesitation, on the part of his Excellency, in complying with my suggestions, till a fuller investigation shall take place.

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16 May 1808.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. In reply to the arzee of Zalim Sing, which was conveyed by your despatch of the 19th instant and presented by me to the Vizier, his Excellency requests you to inform him, that after the payment of his just balances of revenue, for the liquidation of which his security must have been given to you, and after the destruction of the fortress of Buddree and the surrender of his guns and military stores, he is at liberty to reside in the district, and to retain the possession of his villages at a reasonable yearly assessment, and that all future complaints of oppression or exorbitant demands by the Aumil shall be regularly and strictly redressed.

8. On the subject of your despatch of the 21st instant, which I received only this day, and immediately submitted to the Vizier, I have not hitherto obtained a communication of his Excellency's sentiments; but I have no hesitation in assuring you, that the object of the reported sale of Buddree by the Aumil to Oopudhea Mohun Loll, if that circumstance be true, has been anticipated, by the positive orders of the Vizier for the destruction of the fortress in question, and that the adoption of similar measures, with a reference to all the other forts in the district, must necessarily frustrate the improper views of the Aumil, if he really entertain the views which are assigned to him in your despatch.

9. In consideration of the advanced period of the season and of the circumstances which are stated in your letter, I have suggested to his Excellency the necessity of limiting the further services of your detachment, for the present, to the capture or evacuation of the forts of Sumunpore and Corah, in the districts of Behar and Dalamow; and having every reason to expect the Vizier's acquiescence in my suggestions, I request that you will be pleased to consider the possession of those forts as the only remaining object of your operations.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
26th April 1808.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, commanding the Troops in Behar.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch to your address, under date the 26th instant, I have now the honour of informing you, that his Excellency the Vizier has most readily acquiesced in my proposal for the return of your detachment to their cantonments, after the capture or evacuation of the forts of Sumunpore and Corah; and that his Excellency's orders to his Aumil have been issued to this effect, with an additional express injunction for the Aumil's regular attendance upon you, and his affording you the fullest information on every subject which you may refer to him.

2. The Aumil has been further instructed to require and obtain the surrender of all the forts in the possession of Oopudhea Mohun Loll, who is supposed to be submissive to his authority, and the forts of Buddree, Sumunpore, and Corah, as well as those of Mohun Loll, are directed to be immediately destroyed.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. If

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. If the Aumil prove dilatory or negligent in the execution of those commands, the Vizier has assured me that he will call him to a severe account, and that the British troops shall not be required to undertake any further operations in the district with a reference to Oopudhea Mohun Loll, whom the Aumil has reported to be submissive.

4. I solicit the favour of your causing the enclosed mandate from his Excellency to be delivered to Rajah Newaz Sing, and

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
29th April 1808.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter be sent to the Military Department, in continuation of the reply to the reference of the 4th April from that department.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
31 Oct. 1808.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 31st October 1808.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

I deem it to be my duty to transmit to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have addressed to Major-General St. Leger, commanding the troops in the field, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter, and also a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Judge and Magistrate of the zillah of Elahabad.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
17th October 1808.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major-General St. Leger, commanding the Troops in the Field, Cawnpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting for your information, the enclosed copies of letters which I have received from Major O'Donnell, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur.

2. Applications, in the terms suggested by Major O'Donnell, have been made to his Excellency the Vizier and to the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad; and though I regret the necessity of again employing a train of artillery in the neighbourhood of the district of Pertaubghur, I am satisfied of the expedience of that measure, and I have every reason to believe that it will be productive of the most salutary effects.

3. The strength of the mud forts in the district of Kewae, and the force of the insurgents and defaulters in that quarter, are reported to me to be very inconsiderable; and I indulge a well-grounded hope, that the appearance of the intended reinforcement from the post of Pertaubghur, attended by a battering train from Elahabad, will preclude any further resistance on the part of the rebellious Zemindars, and be productive of the permanent tranquillity of that portion of the Vizier's dominions.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
17th October 1808.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
31 Oct. 1808.

Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

1. In continuation of the information conveyed in my letter to you, under date the 25th ultimo, I am extremely sorry to inform you that Captain Harriott has failed in his endeavours to settle matters amicably between the Aumil, Sir-must Khan, and the refractory Zemindars, as will appear by the enclosed copy of a letter received from that officer last night ; in consequence of which I have this day made application to the commanding officer in the field for battering guns and mortars, to enable me to move out with all the troops that can be spared from the duties of this post, for the purpose of levelling the whole of the small forts in the Handeeah district, said to amount to fourteen in number ; and I trust, Sir, you will use your influence with his Excellency the Vizier to issue such orders as may ensure the effectual destruction of them without delay, as it is my intention not to remain a moment longer at any of them than what may be absolutely necessary. I beg leave to mention here, that when my corps was against Buddree a few months ago, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, the men were three complete days without grain of any sort, which caused great distress to them, as well as to the small detachment of cavalry then in camp, owing to the shameful neglect of the Aumil. I must, therefore, intreat your taking effectual steps, on the present occasion, to ensure that attention from the Aumil of Handeeah which is directed towards us in every instance by his Excellency the Nawaub, but rarely attended to. It might also be attended with convenience to the troops to have an order sent to Newaz Sing, the Aumil of this district, to supply our camp, in the event of Sirmust Khan not being able to do so amply.

2. By the accompanying extract from a letter of Captain Harriott's, you will perceive that the rebels have houses, &c. within the boundary of the Company's territory, where they retire with their families, property, &c. whenever a force marches against them, which they may not deem themselves able to hold out against : and no doubt this will be the case if I move out against them, for they will come back again, to a certainty, on the return of my detachment into cantonments, unless you will have the goodness to address the Magistrate at Elahabad upon the subject, and by that means have the persons and property of such people seized and made over to the Nabob's Aumil.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
13th October 1808.

(Signed) H. O'DONNELL,
Major, commanding at Pertaubghur.

To Major H. O'Donnell, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Letter from
Captain Harriott.

Sir :

In my last letter, dated the 5th instant, I expressed the most sanguine hopes that every dispute between the Zemindars, Seetul Persaud and Noreith Sing, with the Aumil, would have been speedily and amicably adjusted ; but I am now sorry to be under the necessity of informing you that there is no chance of these people submitting without strong coercive measures.

From the 5th to the 8th, Seetul Persaud attended the Cutcherry of the Aumil, and also at my tent, when every encouragement was held out to him by the Aumil and myself to settle matters amicably, and he continued to promise every thing ; but on the evening of that day he took himself off, and sent a message to the Aumil, saying he would not pay his arrears or give up his ghurry. On this open declaration I proposed to the Aumil to march on next morning and encamp close to his ghurry ; but the Aumil wishing to try what another day would do, sent the day before yesterday an Hircarrah with a message ; but on the approach of the Hircarrah to the ghurry they threatened to fire on him.

In the evening, at the request of the Aumil, I sent a company, under the command of Lieutenant Randall, to take post opposite the gateway, but without the reach of their matchlocks, with orders to plant as many sentries as he

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31 Oct. 1808.

Letter from
Captain Harriott.

could to his right and left, and to intercept all people coming from or going to the ghurry. As soon as the people in the ghurry perceived Lieutenant Randall's party they fired several matchlocks at them. About an hour before day-break I joined Lieutenant Randall with the remainder of the detachment, and at day-break the Aumil's troops and guns arrived and took post opposite the gateway, the door of which is of planks and was fully exposed to our view, and appeared so slight as to be easily demolished. Nine shots were accordingly fired from the Aumil's guns, but they went so wide of the mark that I made them desist.

The Aumil is now collecting materials to erect a battery, or rather to form some cover for the men from the matchlocks, and intends to-night to advance his guns to within a couple of hundred yards of the ghurry, and has stationed parties of his troops round the place to prevent any supplies going into it. The ghurry is very small and nearly square, with a bastion at each angle, and has only a single wall, and that apparently very thin; but the Aumil's guns being only six-pounders, and very ill supplied with ammunition, they would not be able to effect a breach in the wall, and therefore I intend, if possible, to demolish the gate and open around that way, though I have very little dependance on the Aumil's troops storming the place, even should they be so fortunate as to knock down the gate. Eight or ten fellows from the ghurry came out about an hour ago, and attacked a party of nujeebs belonging to the Aumil posted near the ghurry: they were, however, beat back; but one of the Aumil's men, I am sorry to say, received a severe wound in his foot from a matchlock ball. The Aumil having represented to me that there are three or four ghurries in the district which it will be impossible to reduce without the aid of battering guns and a couple of howitzers, I think it my duty to report it to you; and if I may judge from the resistance making by about fifty men in the small ghurry we are now before, and from the little dependance to be placed in the Aumil's troops, I conceive that a reinforcement, accompanied by some guns, or a couple of howitzers, will be absolutely necessary to restore the peace of the district.

I have, &c.

Camp near Handeeah,
10th October 1808.

(Signed) G. F. HARRIOT,
Captain, commanding a detachment,
second battalion 12th Regiment.

Extract Letter from
Captain Harriott.

Extract of a Letter received from Captain Harriott, dated the 3d October 1808.

I think it necessary to mention here, that one cause of the difficulty attending the collections of this district (Handeeah) is its being entirely surrounded by the Company's territory, where, upon any alarm, the Zemindars send their families, &c. and retire themselves; and I am informed that, should I shew any determination to use force, they will instantly fly into the Company's territory, and by that means evade paying their rents, as they leave their ghurries to be defended by their adherents: I should, therefore, think that a representation to the Magistrate of the district would remedy the evil complained of, and might be the means of securing the persons of the defaulters. The district above alluded to is in the collection of Elahabad. The family of Seetul Persaud is now in the village of Murdapore, about a coss from this, in the district of Elahabad; and that of Noreith Sing is at a village called Mowyah, in the same district, where he himself flies on any alarm.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To W. T. Smith, Esq., Acting Judge and Magistrate, Zillah Elahabad.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed extract from a letter which I have recently received from Major O'Donnell, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, together with a copy of the extract to which that letter has a reference; and I suggest to you the urgent necessity of your adopting efficient measures for the seizure of all defaulters from the Vizier's Government, who may take refuge in the district of Elahabad.

2. The power which is thus afforded to the Vizier's subjects of evading the payment of their revenue by retiring within the Company's dominions, is one of the principal causes of the necessity for extensive military operations undertaken by the British troops to quell insurrections in this country.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
31 Oct. 1808.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
17th October 1808.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the Resident at Lucknow be informed that the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council approves the suggestion contained in his letters to Major-General St. Leger and the Magistrate of Elahabad.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th November 1808.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Nov. 1808.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed extracts from despatches which I have received from Major O'Donnell, commanding the station of Pertaubghur, detailing the operations of his detachment for the suppression of the late disturbances in Kewae, and for the restoration of the Vizier's authority in that district.

2. The gallantry and complete success of the assault of Pathur Surree, and the consequent evacuation of no less than seventeen forts of considerable strength in the course of a few days, are highly creditable to the military talents of Major O'Donnell, and to the courage and conduct of the troops under his command.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th November 1808.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract from a Letter from Major O'Donnell, dated 1st November 1808.

Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

I have the honour to inform you, that marching from Bulleepore this morning, I found the small fort of Seeadee, which I intended to attack, had been evacuated in the course of the night, and the garrison had reinforced that of Pathur Surree. I proceeded immediately to invest the latter. I opened the battery at nine A. M., and finding the breach practicable, at one P. M. I ordered three companies to storm the place, in which I have the pleasure to say I was completely successful. Every man found in the garrison was put to death, and those that attempted to escape were cut up by the cavalry who surrounded the enemy. It is so late that I am prevented from sending a more particular account of the business, but will inform you of the casualties, &c. &c. to-morrow.

I have just heard that Lieutenant Jeremie, of the Pioneers, is dangerously wounded.

Extract from a Letter from Major O'Donnell, dated 2d November 1808.

Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

Having received intelligence, on my late march, that the fort of Seeadee, which was the first object of my attention, had been evacuated during the night, I proceeded at once to the next gurry, Pathur Surree, distant about a mile and a half, and to which the garrison of Seeadee had retired. On reconnoitering it I found sufficient cover to justify an immediate attack, without waiting to erect a regular battery, as there were no cannon in the place: and it being also the opinion of the officer commanding the artillery that a practicable breach

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Nov. 1808.
—
Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

breach might be made in the course of the day, I determined to lose no time in commencing the attack by breaching at the gateway. This determination I formed, from having constantly observed that these refractory Zemindars, although without prospect of effectual resistance, generally wait in their forts until the assault is about to take place, and then, under cover of the night, make their escape with impunity. I therefore set out with an intention of making a prompt and serious example in the first instance, as likely to be not only most effectual, but also to tend to the security of the detachment in the end. Besides, I conceived all negotiation to be at an end, when the garrison had not only refused a recent summons from Captain Harriott's party, but also fired upon them, and would not admit me to proceed near the ghurry on my arrival.

As the two eighteen-pounders, supported by four companies of Sepoys and the advanced guard, were proceeding to occupy the spot from whence the breaching was to take place, a part of the garrison made their escape from the ghurry. The remainder shewed an appearance of resistance; and within a short time two squadrons of the Seventh Native Cavalry were stationed at the south and west faces of the fort, together with two sniping parties, which had considerable effect, by distracting the attention of the enemy in securing the battering party.

After three hours the breach being considered practicable, three companies of Sepoys proceeded to the assault, two of which were desired to pass forward into the ghurry, while the third, in two divisions, scoured the ditch on each side. The resistance was obstinate, and an attempt was made by a part of the garrison to escape towards a jungle about half a mile distant, immediately on the storming party having arrived at the breach; but the cavalry closing up at the moment, cut off completely the escape of those who ventured on the plain, and I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the result was fully equal to my wishes. By all I can learn, very few escaped, and about eighty of the rebels (including Budloo Sing, the head man of this ghurry, and who is said by the Aumil to be the most refractory Zemindar among them) were killed in the ghurry, or on the surrounding plain. This example, I have every reason to hope, will be attended with the best consequences, having just now been informed by the Aumil that Dobar, one of the strongest gurrries in the district, was evacuated during last night. Should this prove to be the case, I hope the detachment will not long be detained on the present service.

It is a pleasing part of my duty to report my obligations to Captain Sealy and Lieutenants Tennant and Graham, of the Artillery detachment, for their promptness and execution in the management of the guns, and to notice the good conduct of the artillerymen, in their cheerful steadiness under a very heavy fire of matchlocks, at a distance of four hundred yards from the fort and not above two hundred yards from a redoubt in front of the gateway. My best thanks are due to Captain Harriott, to Lieutenants Randall, Young, and Hamilton, and Ensign Campbell, and to the native officers and men composing the storming party. In the execution of this duty, Lieutenant Hamilton has been severely wounded; and I have also to mention with thanks the gallantry and zeal of Lieutenant Jeremie, commanding the Pioneers, who, I am sorry to add, received a dangerous wound while advancing with the ladders. I am greatly indebted to Major Knox, commanding the seventh Regiment of Cavalry, for his aid and advice during this service, as well as for the judicious disposition of his regiment yesterday, and to the officers and men of that corps, for their decisive and active execution of his orders.

I have halted to-day, and directed that one of the bastions in Pathur Surrae shall be blown up with powder which has been found in the ghurry. A party of the Pioneers has also been sent to recover as many eighteen-pounder shot as possible, and a small reward offered for such as may be brought in.

It is my intention to proceed to-morrow against Jorawn, a fort which, from all accounts, is surrounded by jungle, and only accessible at one angle. It is considered among the strongest in the district.

Extract

Extract from a Letter from Major O'Donnell, dated the 3d November 1808.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Nov. 1808.

Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

In continuation of my despatch of yesterday, I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the detachment under my command marched this morning to Jorawn. On my arrival there, I found that the enemy had evacuated it in the course of the night. It is a compact fort and strongly situated in a close thick jungle of babool trees. From thence I marched on to Dobar, about a coss further, and this ghurree also has been evacuated. It is not so strong as the former, but is also surrounded by jungle, and appears to have been the principal residence of Sungram Sing, the chief man among the rebels. There are furnaces and apparatus in it for casting cannon; and I have just now received intelligence that Sungram Sing, Setul Pursaud, and Noreith Sing, with two guns and about thirty adherents, were seen yesterday at the village of Shorajepore, in the zillah of Mandah, soubah of Elahabad. This information is further confirmed by the circumstance that two guns with an elephant passed two days ago with the encampment of the light companies of the 26th Regiment, proceeding to Benares.

The example recently made appears to have struck terror throughout this district; and I am convinced no further resistance will be made, although I have not yet ascertained that all the ghurries are in the Aumil's possession. I propose to march to-morrow towards Lutchaghur, a fort on the banks of the Ganges from whence the rebels have frequently plundered boats in their passage on the river; and so soon as I have delivered to the Aumil the remaining ghurries, it is my intention to return with the detachment to cantonments, because the Aumil has received positive orders from his Highness the Nawaub Vizier to level the different ghurries, and it would occupy too much time, without any adequate advantage, if the detachment remained to see them destroyed.

Extract from a Letter from Major O'Donnell, dated the 5th November 1808.

Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

Having completed the service for which I was ordered to march with the detachment, by delivering over the refractory ghurries in the district of Kewae to the Aumil of his Highness the Nawaub Vizier, I have now the honour to acquaint you, that it is my intention to march towards cantonments to-morrow morning. I have desired Captain Sealy to return to Elahabad at the same time with a sufficient party to escort the train, and directed him, after his arrival in garrison, to despatch the company of Pioneers to Cawnpore. Lieutenant Jeremie being unable to travel, will remain at Elahabad until sufficiently recovered to rejoin his corps.

Before concluding this despatch, I am anxious to submit the particular reasons which induced me to adopt prompt and decisive measures in the commencement, instead of proceeding by an attempt at a negociation between each Zemindar and the Aumil of the district, and I trust they will meet with his Excellency's approbation. However unpleasant it was to my feelings to have determined on putting the garrison of Pathur Surree to the sword, and by disposing of the cavalry around the fort to prevent the possibility of any man escaping, yet it struck me forcibly that it was absolutely necessary to make an example in the first instance, not only to prevent this frequent recurrence of disturbance and rebellion, but also because it would ultimately be the means of saving many lives on our own part. On these ideas I formed my plans, and determined to effect the business, if possible, in the course of the day, being convinced from much experience in the customs and ideas of these people, that they would do all the mischief in their power until we were ready to storm, and then expect to escape under cover of the night. Our success at Pathur Surree has, I am thoroughly convinced, tended to the saving of lives in the detachment, because the garrisons of the smaller forts would have collected in the others (many of which we have found on inspecting them capable of serious resistance), without our being able, on account of the jungle about them, to prevent the escape of the garrison, and might consequently have occasioned great loss.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Nov. 1808.

Letter from
Major O'Donnell.

Previously to my arrival, Captain Harriott, by my orders, had made the tour of the district, and summoned the different refractory Zemindars to deliver up their forts to the Aumil; but instead of paying any attention to this summons, Captain Harriott's party was treated with insult and defiance. He was not permitted to go close to any of the ghurries, but was frequently fired at, and in one instance was attacked near Jorawn by a party who, on his arrival at the ground of encampment, attempted to rush on the companies with drawn swords, and desisted only when the sepoys collected on the alarm being given and prepared to charge them. At Pathur Surree, more especially, the Zemindar, after receiving a written assurance that he might come into camp with safety, for the purpose of settling matters with the Aumil, refused, under the most frivolous pretences, to conclude any terms whatever.

I have now the satisfaction to report, that the whole of the ghurries are delivered over to the Aumil, who has placed a party of his troops in each and is beginning to destroy them. I have ordered Captain Ryan to remain with two companies for a short time to see this business effected, to support the authority of the Aumil, and to maintain tranquillity in the district; and I return to cantonments with the remainder of the troops, because the season is now commencing in which their exercise is to be particularly attended to. On this subject I am unusually anxious, because my battalion has, with very little intermission, been divided into detached parties for a long time past, and therefore been deprived of the advantage of regular exercise and discipline.

Herewith I enclose an acknowledgment from the Aumil of the number of ghurries delivered to him, together with a list of them.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, reporting the progress of the troops employed under the command of Major O'Donnell, for the suppression of the disturbances, and the complete success which has attended them.

2. The Governor-General in Council desires you will signify to Major O'Donnell his Lordship's high sense of the spirit and military skill evinced by himself and the officers and men under his command, and the concern with which his Lordship has learned that Lieutenants Jeremie and Hamilton have been severely wounded on this service.

3. The surrender of the several ghurries held by the refractory Zemindars of Kewae is very satisfactory to the Governor-General in Council; but his Lordship cannot but lament the necessity (which has no doubt existed) of making so severe an example of the garrison in this species of warfare, when the degree of guilt on the part of the rebels is so uncertain and ill-defined. It is always with reluctance that the troops of the Company are employed on this kind of service, when, from the known defects of the Vizier's Government, it is often highly probable that the disturbance has been occasioned by the oppression and exactions of his Excellency's officers, as much as by the turbulent and seditious spirit of the Zemindars; and it would certainly be a satisfaction to Government to know that the service could be performed without having recourse to measures of such extremity, as appear to have been necessary in the instance which has given rise to these remarks.

4. The confidence which Government has in the character of Major O'Donnell, precludes the admission of the slightest idea, that any thing but an entire conviction of the necessity of the measure would have induced him to adopt it; and these observations are by no means intended to convey any censure on that respectable officer.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
28th November 1808.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 6th March 1809.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 March 1809.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. The state of certain jagiers in the reserved territory of his Excellency the Vizier, and the repeated applications which I have received from the holders of those jagiers, suggest the necessity of a reference to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

2. Among the Jagierdars under the Vizier's Government, her Highness the Bhow Begum of Fyzabad, her Highness the younger Begum, Shums-oon Nissa, the Nawaub Mudar-ood Dowla, Tuhseen Alee Khan, and Tujum-ool Hooseyn Khan, consider themselves as the dependants of the British Government, and as entitled to its protection and support.

3. Disturbances have frequently arisen in the jagiers of both the Begums, and in those of Mudar-ood Dowla and Tuhseen Alee Khan, whose revenues have been withholden by their landholders, and who, in applying for my support, have not hesitated to express their conviction that the Vizier was disposed to encourage, rather than to suppress, the disturbances in their jagiers, and that no advantage could arise from their applications for assistance to his Excellency, unless supported by the influence and authority of the British Government at his court.

4. On two very recent occasions I have deemed it to be my duty to call the Vizier's attention to the state of the elder Begum's, and the Nawaub Mudar-ood Dowla's jagier, and to point out to his Excellency the justice and necessity of his considering those lands in the same point of view with the other districts of his dominions, from which his own revenue is derived, since the assignment of lands in jagier could not affect the paramount authority of the sovereign over the lands which were so assigned, and consequently the resistance of the landholder to the legal authority or just demands of the Jagierdar could be viewed in no other light, with propriety, than as rebellion against the sovereign of the country and paramount ruler of the jagier.

5. His Excellency the Vizier has invariably admitted the force of my arguments on this subject, and has frequently promised to take measures for supporting the authority of the Jagierdars and punishing the refractory landholders. But the adoption of these measures has been protracted from time to time, to the great injury of her Highness the Bhow Begum and of the Nawaub Mudar-ood Dowla, whose complaints in consequence to me have been so frequent, and apparently so just, that I deemed it proper to intimate to the Vizier my intention of employing a small portion of the British troops in his country for the suppression of the disturbances in those jagiers.

6. His Excellency seemed entirely averse to the adoption of this latter measure, and would appear to be impressed with an idea that the employment, or even the movement of any portion of the British troops in his dominions, must be dependant on his own will or requisition exclusively, and cannot proceed under the authority of the Resident at his court without his previous concurrence and sanction.

7. My conception of the nature of the alliance subsisting between the two states, and of the spirit of the third article of the Treaty of Cession, induces me to consider this question in a very different light from that in which his Excellency has viewed it; and as the sacrifice or preservation of the rights of the several Jagierdars whom I have noticed may depend on the decision of the question, I have thought it my duty to submit it for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, whose sentiments and commands upon the subject I am solicitous to be apprized of at the earliest practicable period of time.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th February 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 March 1809.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 20th ultimo, on the subject of the disturbances occasionally arising in the lands composing the jagiers of their Highnesses the Bhow Begum and the younger Begum, and other persons considered to be under the immediate protection of the British Government, and the disinclination of His Excellency the Vizier to permit the employment of the British troops for the purpose of quelling such disturbances ; submitting, at the same time, to the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, whether under the provisions of the third article of the Treaty of Cession, the British Government is not authorized to employ its troops for that purpose without his Excellency's previous sanction.
2. The Governor-General in Council has received with great concern this report of the Vizier's disinclination to admit the adoption of the same measures for the suppression of disturbances in the lands of the Jagierdars that are pursued in the rest of the territories under his dominion, and entirely approves the representations which you had occasion to address to his Excellency on that subject.
3. The Governor-General in Council, however, doubts the right of the British Government to employ its troops in the cases which you have stated without the concurrence of the Vizier, and apprehends that the provisions of the third article of the Treaty of November 1801 are inapplicable to cases of that nature, because the occurrence of such cases could not be supposed without injury to the character and credit of the Vizier, and could not, therefore, have been contemplated in forming that article.
4. The article in question provides that with a view to the effectual defence of the territories of the Vizier against foreign or domestic enemies, it shall be in the power of the Company's Government to station the British troops in such parts of his Excellency's dominions as shall appear to the said Government to be most expedient ; and consequently, in the execution of any service requiring a system of military operations, to regulate the movement of the troops according to the exigency of the occasion.
5. The terms of this article presuppose some external attack, or some internal commotion which may eventually take place, is expected, or has actually occurred ; and the object of that article could not have been to provide against any disinclination on the part of the Vizier to authorize the employment of troops for the protection of his own dominions, since it would have been absurd to suppose that his Excellency could, under any circumstances, desire to encourage external attack or internal insurrection, without imputing to him a spirit of hostility and treachery towards his ally. The object of that article was to secure to the troops a latitude of action, applicable to any emergency of danger, unimpeded by the embarrassments which would probably arise, if his Excellency were allowed to regulate or influence the system of defensive arrangements or of military operations.
6. Entertaining this construction of the third article of the treaty, the Governor-General in Council is reluctantly compelled to determine that, in the cases in question, no other measures are admissible than those of remonstrance. You will, therefore, be pleased to renew your representations to his Excellency in the name of the Governor-General, and endeavour to convince his Excellency of the impolicy, as well as injustice, of countenancing disturbances within the lands of his Jagierdars, and of the danger to which the general tranquility of his country is exposed, and the injury which his reputation must sustain, by tolerating the prevalence of commotion within the limits of his own territories.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
6th March 1809.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 31st October 1809.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
31 Oct. 1809.

To the Honourable John Lumsden, Esq., Vice-President in Council.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of submitting to your notice the enclosed copies of letters dated the 3d and 16th instant, which I have addressed to the commanding officer of the British troops at Secrora, in compliance with the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th October 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Bird, commanding the Troops at Secrora.

Sir :

1. In compliance with the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier, I have the honour of transmitting for your information the enclosed copy of an arzee received from the Ameen of Nandparra.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. If the statement of Roshun Khan's proceedings, as contained in this document, be correct, it seems advisable to lose no time in requiring that person to desist from warlike preparations, so manifestly improper and unbecoming the condition of a subject ; and you will accordingly be pleased, after ascertaining the truth of the intelligence, to address a purwannah to Roshun Khan in the terms of this communication, and warning him of the fatal consequences to himself which must inevitably be produced by his persisting in conduct so improper.

3. After receiving an answer from Roshun Khan, if his explanation do not prove satisfactory, you will be pleased to adopt the necessary measures, in concert with the Vizier's Ameen, for reducing the small fortress of Nandparra and disarming Roshun Khan and his adherents.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
3d October 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

*Arzee of Meer Muhmood Alee, Ameen of Nandparra, dated the
26th September 1809.*

Arzee
from the Ameen of
Nandparra.

At this time Roshun Khan, the Chaila of Mudar Buksh, has commenced his hostile preparations. The repairs of the fortress and ditch are proceeding rapidly by his orders, and he is entertaining men every day. A thousand men from the hills have been called to his assistance, and the manufacture of powder and cannon, and musket-shot, as well as the purchase and deposit of grain in the fort, are proceeding with remarkable zeal. Outposts and videttes have been established in all directions round the fort, the Ranee's property has been removed from it, and every thing looks like preparation for defence.

On my receiving the first intelligence of these proceedings, I summoned Heera Loll, the agent of Roshun Khan, and cautioned him against the dangers of such proceedings, which must ultimately tend to their destruction. Heera Loll pretended that the preparations were merely against surrounding Zemindars, who are always troublesome at this season ; but all this I know to be false, and have therefore deemed it to be my duty to represent the matter to the presence.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident,

Bengal Political
Communications,
31 Oct. 1809.

To Major Bird, commanding the Troops at Secrora.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. Since the despatch of my letter to your address, under date the 3d instant, authentic accounts have been received of the rebellious conduct of Roshun Khan, possessor of the fortress of Nandparra, and have induced me to concur with his Excellency the Vizier in the propriety of expelling Roshun Khan from the fortress in question, and dispossessing him of all the lands which he has recently usurped in that quarter.

2. With this view, the whole of the disposable force of his Excellency the Vizier, consisting of a regular battalion of sepoy and six guns, with a considerable number of irregular cavalry and matchlock-men, under the control of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, Aumil of Khyrabad, has been ordered to march without delay, and to cross the Gogra at the point nearest to the frontier of Nandparra, where the Aumil has been directed to halt, for the purpose of communicating with you, and of receiving your instructions and commands on the subject of his future operations.

3. Hukeem Mehdi has been instructed to procure and convey to you the most accurate information regarding the situation and strength of the fortress of Nandparra, the nature of the access towards it, the most practicable mode of attacking it, and the number and efficiency of the garrison, as well as of the troops and adherents of Roshun Khan in the district at large. He has been further instructed, with the view of securing the person of Roshun Khan and suppressing the disorders in Nandparra at once, if you deem this measure to be practicable, to advance to the attack of Nandparra with the Vizier's battalion and artillery alone, in the hope of inducing Roshun Khan to hazard a general action, which the appearance of the British troops might prevent, and thus protract the accomplishment of the object.

4. You will be pleased to receive and consider the communications of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, and to report the result of your deliberation on the subject of them with the least practicable delay, conveying at the same time your opinion regarding the practicability of the capture of Nandparra, and suppression of the rebel Roshun Khan by the force of Hukeem Mehdi, with or without the assistance of the British troops under your command, and holding the whole of the disposable force at Buhrangauth and Secrora in readiness to proceed to the support of the Vizier's troops if circumstances render this measure advisable.

5. If a further reinforcement of the British troops, or the aid of a battering train, be in your opinion required, you will, of course, convey that opinion, and the grounds of it, with the least practicable delay.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
16th October 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th instant, enclosing copies of the letters which, at the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier, you addressed to the officer commanding at Secrora, directing him to adopt measures for coercing the rebellious Aumil of Nandparra, and to inform you that your proceedings on that occasion are entirely approved by his Excellency the Vice-President in Council.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
31st October 1809.

(Signed) C. LUSHINGTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 12th December 1809.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
12 Dec. 1809.

To his Excellency Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice-President, &c. &c. &c.
Honourable Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have the honour of submitting for your Excellency's information the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Major-General St. Leger, commanding the troops in the field, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th November 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major-General St. Leger, &c. &c. &c.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day received from Major Bird, commanding the troops at Nandparra, together with a copy of my despatch of this date addressed to that officer in reply.

2. Major Bird's zeal for the public service, and his imperfect information regarding the strength of the fortress of Nandparra, would appear to have induced him to depart from the spirit of my instructions under date the 16th ultimo, by advancing with an inadequate force, and authorizing the commencement of hostile operations against the fort before the means of success were at his disposal.

3. It does not, however, appear that any unpleasant effects can result from the advance of the detachment to Nandparra; and on the contrary, the occupation of a position so near to the fort by the troops of his Excellency the Vizier and by the detachment under the command of Major Bird, will serve, at least, to keep the rebels in check, and to preclude their reinforcement, or the admission of supplies into the fortress, till effectual measures can be adopted for its reduction.

4. I suggest for your consideration the propriety of affording to Major Bird the assistance of a battering train with the least practicable delay; and as the relieving corps for the stations of Seetapore and Secrora may be expected to arrive at their destination before the 20th of the ensuing month, a reinforcement of infantry, to any extent which may be required, can be ordered from those battalions.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th November 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, &c. &c. &c.

Sir:

Letter
from Major Bird.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have this morning taken up a position before the fortress of Nandparra, and, in the act of reconnoitring, the guns of the fort opened upon us. From the most correct local information that I can obtain, Roshun Khan has between four and five thousand rebels armed in the fort, and nine guns of different calibre mounted on the walls. From his commencing hostilities, his determination to oppose is obvious; I conceive it therefore advisable to make regular approaches against the fort, and have ordered Hukeem Mehdi Alee to procure the requisite materials for the construction of gabions, &c.

I am sorry to inform you, that the only gun in camp that could make any impression on the fort at present, and belonging to Hukeem Mehdi Alee, burst this morning, and I understand that several of his people have been severely wounded by the fire from the fort.

Enclosed

Bengal Political
Consultations,
12 Dec. 1809.

Enclosed is the rebel Chailah's reply to my summons of yesterday to surrender up his person, the fort, and disperse his followers; a compliance with which would have induced me to intercede with his Highness the Vizier for his life.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nandparra,
26th November 1809.

(Signed) J. Bird,
Major, commanding.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Bird, commanding Camp at Nandparra.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 26th instant.

2. The information which you have now conveyed to me, regarding the strength of the fortress of Nandparra and the number of the rebel Roshun's adherents in arms, is extremely different from the reports of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to his Excellency the Vizier, and seems further to be at variance with the statements which are contained in your own despatches of the 3d and 17th instant to my address.

3. The reduction of the fortress of Nandparra by the troops of his Highness the Vizier and the detachment under your command, without the aid of a battering train, seems to me to be totally impracticable; and from a consideration of the repeated orders of the government with a reference to the employment of British troops against forts or other places of strength, I deem it to be my duty to desire that you will suspend all operations of a nature calculated to endanger the credit or safety of the troops under your command, until effectual measures shall be adopted for ensuring the success of those operations, maintaining, at the same time, your present position in the neighbourhood of Nandparra, with the view of precluding the reinforcement of the garrison or the admission of supplies into the fortress.

4. A copy of this despatch shall be transmitted without delay to the commanding officer of the troops in the field.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th November 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 Dec. 1809.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 19th December 1809.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice-President in Council.

Honourable Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch, under date the 28th ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have more recently addressed to Major-General St. Leger commanding the troops in the field, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter, and also a copy of my letter of this date to the commanding officer of the troops at Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Major-General St. Leger, commanding the Troops in the Field, Cawnpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 30th ultimo, with its enclosure, and I solicit your acceptance of my cordial acknowledgments for the readiness with which you have been pleased to comply with my suggestion on the subject of the military operations against Nandparra.

2. The enclosed are copies of letters, under date the 1st instant, which I despatched by express to the commanding officers of Seetapore and Pertaubghur.

3. Five complete companies of sepoy's from the regiment on duty at this station shall be holden in readiness to proceed with the battering train to Nandparra, immediately on its arrival at Lucknow.

4. His Excellency the Vizier has most readily acquiesced in the arrangements for the reinforcement of the troops at Nandparra from this station and Seetapore, and has issued the most positive orders for the preparation of supplies at the different stages on the road, and of platform boats for the transportation of the troops across the Gogra.

5. I have the honour of transmitting for your information the enclosed copies of two despatches which I have recently received from Major Bird, together with a copy of a letter, of yesterday's date, which I addressed to that officer.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 Dec. 1809.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major W. Raban, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. Immediately on your receipt of this letter, I request that you will be pleased to detach a complete squadron of the third regiment of cavalry by the shortest route to Nandparra, in the district of Baraitch. The detachment to be employed against the fortress of Nandparra.

2. His Excellency the Vizier has instructed his several Aumils to prepare supplies for the detachment, on its march by the route of Sooltanpore to Fyzabad and Secroa, and to have boats in readiness at Fyzabad for the purpose of its crossing the Gogra.

3. I calculate on the junction of the squadron of cavalry with the troops encamped before Nandparra within ten days from the date of your receiving this despatch.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

Sir :

1. Immediately on your receipt of this letter, I request that you will be pleased to proceed with the whole of the troops under your command, excepting such a detail as may be required for the protection of the cantonments, to reinforce the detachment under the command of Major Bird, which is encamped before the fortress of Nandparra in Baraitch, and to assume the general command of the operations against that fortress.

2. His Excellency the Vizier has directed his Aumil of Khyrabad to prepare supplies for your detachment on its march to Nandparra, by the route of Buhramgauth, where boats will be holden in readiness for the purpose of your crossing the Gogra.

K

3. A detachment

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

OUDH PAPERS.

Bengal Political
 Consultations,
 19 Dec. 1809.

3. A detachment of five complete companies of Sepoys from the regiment on duty at Lucknow, with a battering train consisting of two iron eighteen-pounders, one iron twelve-pounder, and an eight-inch howitzer, will proceed from this station on the 5th or 6th instant, and arrive at Buhramgaut on or before the 8th, when I calculate also on your arrival at that station on your route to Nandparra.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
 1st December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
 Resident.

Letter from
 Major Bird.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Since my despatch of the 26th instant to your address, I thought it advisable, on the 27th, to move from the position I had taken up, in consequence of the great scarcity of water for the supply of my detachment and the contiguity of an extensive jungle, which must have rendered our situation hazardous, on account of the numerous rebels who, I was informed, had been dispersed there for the purpose of annoying our camp. I consequently took up my ground to the right of Hukeem Mehdi's encampment, where I had scarcely arrived when I was informed of the Hukeem's intention of moving to another position; I therefore judged it expedient to direct that Aumil to remain where he was till my further advice. To my infinite surprise, however, I found that he paid so little attention to it, though my motives had been fully explained to him, that he moved his encampment considerably in my rear this morning. On expostulating with him on the irregularity of such a proceeding, he could assign no satisfactory reason for such conduct. The consequence was, that the whole of the encampment accompanied him, Soorul Sing excepted, who alone remained on his ground until this evening, when that Rajah (whom I have to express my satisfaction of, for the vigorous and active measures pursued by him since his arrival in camp, and who, in fact, was the only chief, in my opinion, that appeared zealous in the cause) was compelled, from being abandoned, to join Hukeem Mehdi's camp, withdrawing his guns from a most important position, where a well directed fire had been kept up and a check given to the audacious rebels in their various sallies from the fort, and which position being thus deserted was immediately seized and destroyed by them. All of these circumstances I was allowed to remain ignorant of by the Hukeem, who when called upon for an explanation, declared that he neither had a control or command over any description of people out of his own immediate camp, and that little reliance or confidence could be reposed or expected from the others.

It is therefore painful to me, Sir, to represent to you the present situation of my detachment, which, thus circumstanced, is unavoidably harassed every night, by the rigorous necessity of being constantly on the alert, in order to maintain its present position, by guarding against the meditated attacks of the numerous and surrounding rebels. You will be pleased to communicate to me your further directions and orders on the occasion with convenient despatch.

In drawing to a conclusion, I consider it of importance to state to you, that considerable detachments from the irregulars in camp have been sent away for various purposes, without my knowledge of the circumstance from Hukeem Mehdi Alee, by which the main body that I first formed a junction with has been considerably diminished.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nandparra,
 29th November 1809.

(Signed) J. BIRD,
 Major, commanding.

P.S. It has just now come to my knowledge, that a quantity of supplies for our camp from Baraitch has been cut off by the rebels from Rodarghur fort, at Jumoonia, who have threatened destruction to all the country about Baraitch. The apprehension, therefore, of want, and the distressing situation of my small detachment laying on their arms without the prospect of coming to some determination either one way or other, induces me to solicit your serious attention on the occasion.

To

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 Dec. 1809.

Letter from
Major Bird.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 26th instant, and, with reference to the second paragraph, on the subject of the information I had the pleasure to transmit you, under date the 3d and 17th instant, respecting Nandparra, and what I had communicated in my despatch of the 26th instant, I am perfectly aware of the statements regarding the fortress and the number of the rebel Roshun Khan's adherents in arms to be undoubtedly at variance, which can alone be accounted for, from my being deceived into a belief that the accounts received at the former periods, both from Muhmood, the Ameen, and the Hirkarrahs I had despatched from Secrora for the purpose of information, might have been correct, nor had I reason to entertain a different opinion on the subject till my arrival before the fortress.

The orders specified in your third paragraph, desiring me to suspend all operations that might endanger the credit or safety of the troops under my command, shall be implicitly complied with. The utmost exertions on my part shall not be wanting, to maintain the present position of my detachment in the neighbourhood of Nandparra: and as it would not be advisable to separate any part of it, for the purpose of preventing reinforcements in the garrison or supplies into the fortress, I have directed Hukeem Mehdi Alee to detach an adequate force on the occasion from his camp, and which he has promised to do, observing that during the day the measure might succeed, but at night is impracticable, on account of the secret bye-ways and footpaths leading to the fort from the jungles. From the general information, however, it would appear manifest that the rebels have immense supplies of all descriptions established within the fort; but any further late reinforcements have not, I believe, been clearly ascertained.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nandparra,
30th November 1809.

(Signed) J. BIRD,
Major, commanding.

To Major Bird, commanding the Troops at Nandparra.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th ultimo, and I am concerned to learn that the conduct of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan has not deserved your approbation.

2. My letter of the 28th ultimo, and the orders of the general officer commanding in the field, under date the 30th ultimo, must have reached you ere this can arrive, and will supersede the necessity of any further instructions for your guidance.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, with the whole of the force under his command, will march from Seetapore on the evening of the 2d instant; and five companies of sepoy, from the regiment on duty at this station, will proceed on the 4th instant in charge of the battering train.

4. A squadron of cavalry has further been directed to join you from Pertaubghur with the least practicable delay; and it only remains for you to maintain a position, either before or in the neighbourhood of Nandparra, and to confine yourself to defensive operations until reinforcements and the battering train shall arrive.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
91 Dec. 1809.

To Lieutenant-Colonel J. Cunninghame, commanding the Troops
at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A battering train, consisting of two iron eighteen-pounders, one iron twelve-pounder, and one howitzer, being expected to arrive at this station from Cawnpore on the morning of the 6th instant, I request that you will be pleased to direct the commanding officer of the detachment now under orders of march, to receive charge of the battering train immediately on its arrival, and to proceed with it to Nandparra, in Baraitch, by the route of Buhramgauth, with all practicable expedition, taking care to apprize the commanding officer of the troops at Nandparra of the day on which he crosses the river Gogra, after which he will consider himself as under the orders of that officer and report his daily progress accordingly.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice-President in Council.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a letter, dated the 4th instant, which I addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the troops at Nandparra, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
6th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment, on his
March to Nandparra.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting for your information the enclosed translations of a letter, and other documents, which I have this day received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. The intelligence contained in those documents will suggest to you the peculiar importance of your arrival in the district of Baraitch with the least possible delay, and the inexpediency of your halting at Buhramgauth till the arrival of the battering train, which will be sufficiently protected on its march by the detachment proceeding in charge of it from this station.

3. The junction with the force under your command of a complete squadron of cavalry, which marched yesterday morning from Pertaubghur and will arrive in the vicinity of Baraitch about the 10th or 11th instant, will enable you to take effectual measures for the protection of that district from the depredations of the marauders who are stated to have recently infested it.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier, received the 4th December 1809.

I enclose, for your information, copy of an arzee from Emam-oo Deen, the Kutwal of Baraitch, from which you will learn that the rebels of Nandparra have attacked some villages in the neighbourhood of Baraitch, and that a report prevails of their intention of plundering that city. I request that you will be pleased to order a detachment of British troops to be stationed in the neighbourhood of Baraitch, to prevent further depredations, and to punish the marauders in that quarter.

I have

I have understood from Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, that Major Bird had stated to him that people from the hills have repaired to the fortress of Nandparra to reinforce the garrison. The Major desired Hukeem Mehdi to be on the alert and watchful. I request that you will adopt such measures, with a reference to this report, as may appear to you to be advisable.

Bengal Political Consultations,
19 Dec. 1809.

Translation of the Arzee of Emam-ood Deen, the Kutwal of Baraitch, dated the 27th November 1809.

Arzee from the
Kutwal of Baraitch.

It is reported that yesterday several villages in the vicinity of Baraitch were plundered by the rebels of Nandparra, and that they intended to make an attack on Baraitch: this report has greatly alarmed the inhabitants. I have comforted the Ryots, and out of the hundred people I have with me, I have placed fifty at the nakas, or entrances into the town, and with the remaining fifty have patrolled round the city the whole night. If your Excellency be pleased to allow me a gun for the defence of the city it will ensure greater safety.

Translation of the Baraitch Akhbar, dated the 1st December 1809.

Intelligence
from the Baraitch
Akhbar.

Several persons from the village of Mullapoor, in the district of Baraitch, repaired to Ram Sing, Tehsildar of Baraitch, and stated to him that last night (30th November) several of the followers of Roshun Khan, Chelah of Nuwaub Mudar Bukhsh deceased, late Talookdar of Nandparra, attacked the above village, killed two cow-herds, set fire to the village, burnt four children and fifteen bullocks, and took away the property of the inhabitants. The Tehsildar consoled these people, and said that the rebels should shortly be punished.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice President in Council.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copies of despatches which I have this day received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath and Major Bird, commanding detachments of troops employed against the fortress of Nandparra.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Mac Grath.

I beg to acquaint you, for the satisfaction of his Excellency the Vizier, that I crossed the river Gogra with the detachment under my command yesterday, and have proceeded one march from the ghant on the road towards Nandparra, where I shall arrive on the 12th current. You may likewise assure his Excellency that every possible exertion on my part shall be used, to avert the danger to be apprehended from the followers of the rebel chief, Roshun Khan. I likewise transcribe a paragraph of my public report to Major-General St. Leger, for your information, as follows :

" The detachment at present stationed at Buhramgauth consists of four companies; and as it does not strike me there is any particular necessity for so large a force at that post, I would wish to recommend the propriety of detaching two companies for the protection of Baraitch, until such time as the service before Nandparra is completed.

L

" I submitted

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 Dec. 1809.

" I submitted the propriety of this measure to the Resident at Lucknow, who objects to it only on the score of interfering with the general relief. But, as the relief of Buhramghaut is suspended for the present, a part of the detachment might be temporarily posted at Baraitch, where I understand their services are likely to be required in quelling disturbances apprehended from the followers of Roshun Khan, the rebel chief, &c. &c."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
1st Battalion 9th Regiment.

Camp Kotah,
8th December 1809.

Letter
from Major Bird.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your express of the 4th instant, conveying me copy of your instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath.

I have pleasure in acquainting you that much attention is manifested in regular supplies to our detachment in camp, Hukeem Mehdi Alee having informed me that an efficient party was detached some days ago by Baluck Ram, and posted under Ommur Sing at Surkerpore, for the purpose of protecting and facilitating the necessary supplies.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nandparra,
7th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BIRD,
Major, commanding.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Dec. 1809.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 26th December 1809.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice President in Council.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a despatch which I have this day received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the troops at Nandparra.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
14th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
MacGrath.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I beg leave to inform you that I arrived before the fort of Nandparra to-day, where I joined Major Bird's detachment.

I am happy to inform you that in the course of my march through the Vizier's country, since my last report, I have not experienced the smallest difficulty. Supplies of every description were amply furnished at my daily places of encampment.

From the state of forwardness in which I found the preparations for the reduction of the fort, I have reason to be satisfied with the useful assistance Major Bird must have experienced from Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan's exertions to forward the public service: a circumstance, I hope, you will do me the favour of communicating to his Excellency the Vizier.

With respect to the disturbance which was reported to have existed in the neighbourhood of Baraitch, I made every inquiry, and I have reason to believe that nothing of an alarming nature occurred to entertain apprehensions for the safety of that town. Two or three villages, intermediately situated between this

this place and Baraitch, in the Nandparra district, have been burnt, which I believe to be the extent of the damage that has been sustained.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Dec. 1809.

The cavalry will arrive in camp to-morrow, and the battering-train I expect on the 15th.

I have, &c.

Camp at Nandparra,
12th December 1809.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding
at Nandparra.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d January 1810.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 Jan. 1810.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General George Hewett, Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c., Fort William.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a despatch which I have this day received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, reporting the evacuation, on the evening of the 18th instant, of the fortress of Nandparra in Baraitch, together with a copy of a letter which I have addressed on this occasion to the Secretary to the Right Honourable the Governor-General at Fort St George.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

Sir :

I have much pleasure in acquainting you that the fortress of Nandparra was abandoned last night about ten o'clock, during the time the batteries were constructing to effect its reduction.

The secret manner in which the rebels effected their escape, under cover of a thick and extreme jungle, prevented my having an opportunity of cutting off their retreat; but I lost no time in detaching a party in pursuit, as you will observe by my official report on the subject to Major-General St. Leger, a copy of which I herewith transmit for your satisfaction.

The fort is now garrisoned by a detachment of his Excellency the Vizier's troops.

I shall be more at leisure to-morrow, when I shall address you particularly on the subject of the further services which will be required from this detachment, and when completed, will tend to firmly establish his Excellency the Vizier's authority in this district.

I have, &c.

Camp at Nandparra,
18th December 1809.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Nandparra.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of reporting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that the fortress of Nandparra, in the district of Baraitch, against which a detachment of the British troops has been employed for some time at the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier, was evacuated on the evening of the 18th instant and taken possession of by his Excellency's Aumil, who has been instructed, at my suggestion, to have it immediately razed to the ground.

2. The

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 Jan. 1810.

2. The circumstances which have led to the employment of the British troops on this occasion, and the details of the military operations under the command of Major Bird and Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, are contained in the enclosed copies of letters which have passed between those officers and me, and of two letters which I addressed to Major-General St. Leger, commanding the troops in the field.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th December 1809.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General George Hewett, Vice-President in Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of yesterday's date, I have now the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the troops at Nandparra.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st December 1809.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Having been disappointed in the hope that Captain Whitehead would have overtaken the fugitive insurgents with Roshun Khan, I have resolved on immediately setting out to take the command of that detachment, which has halted some distance on this side of Hyderghur.

The fort of Roderghur has been abandoned by the enemy, and possession given by Captain Fogo to his Excellency's Aumil.

Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan reports, that the man in command of Churddelah offers to surrender his fort and such property belonging to Roshun Khan as is in his charge : a circumstance that, I hope, will lead to a speedy adjustment of all services to be performed in this quarter.

I have, &c.

Nandparra,
19th December 1809.

(Signed)

J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Nandparra.

Bengal Political
Consultations
9 Jan. 1810.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 9th January 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General George Hewett, Vice-President in Council, Fort-William,

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that despatch.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th December 1809.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the Troops in Nandparra.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting, for your information and guidance, the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, together with a copy of my answer to that letter, and a statement of the names of the several refractory Zemindars in the district of Baraitch, the reduction of whose forts or fastnesses, and whose deprivation of the means of future resistance to authority, form the only remaining objects of the services of the detachment under your command.

2. I have every reason to expect that the march of the British troops, after the reduction of the fortress of Churdela, in the direction of the several places which are described in the accompanying list, will be sufficient to accomplish the object without any military operations; and that the recall of the battering train will not be materially delayed by the service which is now required from it.

3. Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, and Balik Ram, Aumil of Baraitch, have been commanded by his Excellency the Vizier to give you every degree of local information and all the assistance in their power in the execution of the service committed to you; and I rely with confidence on your approved judgment and zeal, for the speedy and successful accomplishment of the objects of that service.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 26th December 1809.)

Although the rebel, Roshun Khan, be now expelled from Nandparra, and most of his forts have been evacuated, yet the tranquillity of the district at large can never be permanently established, until many other refractory Zemindars be suppressed; for there are still several fortresses in Baraitch, and every Zemindar in the district has a gun or two in his possession. It has, indeed, been fully ascertained, that there are no less than sixty pieces of ordnance now in the district of Baraitch, and until the Zemindars be deprived of their guns, and their strongholds be levelled to the ground, it is impossible to expect the establishment of public authority, or the maintainance of tranquillity in the country.

It appears to me to be advisable, in the present favourable season for military operations, while so numerous and so efficient an army with a battering train is on the spot, that the same effectual measures which were so judiciously adopted by you last year, with a reference to the district of Kewae, should now be carried into effect with a reference to the district of Baraitch; and I am satisfied that, in this event, the Zemindars of the district in question, from the terror of the British arms, would speedily surrender their guns and evacuate the forts in their possession, and the entire tranquillity of the district being thus restored and established, the aid of the British troops could never again be required. If this suggestion be approved, I request that you will carry it into effect.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 27th December 1809.)

1. I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter dated yesterday, and being fully aware of the propriety and necessity of the measures which your Excellency has suggested, it is my intention to address the commanding officer of the troops in Nandparra, and to convey to that officer the necessary instructions on the subject with the least practicable delay.

M

2. General

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 Jan. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 Jan. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. General St. Leger, however, is extremely desirous, and it is indeed of the greatest importance, under existing circumstances, in every point of view, that the services of a large proportion of the British troops, and more particularly of the battering train, in Baraitch, should be dispensed with at the earliest possible period, and nothing but the high consideration with which it is my duty, on every occasion, to receive your Excellency's commands, added to the lively interest which the British Government must ever feel in the establishment and maintainance of your authority, could have induced either the commanding officer of the troops in the field or myself to wave the important considerations which suggest the immediate recall of the battering train and artillery to the head quarters of the army in the field.

3. I trust, however, that the remaining objects of the present armament in Baraitch will not only be speedily accomplished, but will lead, as your Excellency has remarked, by their speedy and successful accomplishment, to the establishment of the public authority in that district, on such a basis as will preclude the employment of the British troops on any future occasion.

4. With this view, I suggest to your Excellency the propriety of your instructing your Aumil to lose no time in submitting, in person, to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, a detailed statement of all the forts to be reduced, with every information which he can obtain respecting those forts and their possessors; and it is further my duty to represent to you the obvious and urgent necessity of the immediate and entire demolition of every fortress, or strong hold, of whatever description, which may be reduced, on the present occasion, by the operations or the presence of the British troops on the right bank of the Gogra.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

List of Guns of different Calibres, transmitted by Baluck Ram, the Aumil of Baraitch.

	Guns
In the district of Gwaritch, in the fortress of Bumowrah, in the possession of Dowcul Sing Zemindar, about four coss to the south-west of the British cantonments at Secrora	2
In the fortress of Kunkole, about seven coss from Secrora	4
In the ditto of Mobaruckpore, in the possession of Asrab Sing and Bhoojung Sing, ten coss from Secrora	5
In Jugnapore, belonging to Dewun Sing, in the fortress of Shaban, five coss from Secrora	2
In Hurkorpore, belonging to Ram Sing	1
In Churdah, about twenty-seven coss from Secrora, belonging to the brothers of Bhoojung Sing.....	7
In Bhemowlee	2
In the fortress of Rhewa	Swivels 5
In ditto of Bhinja.....	Guns 5
In ditto of Ikana	2
In the fortress of Multuray	5
In Bulrampore	2
In Gonda, attached to the district of Baraitch, belonging to Hunnoomaunpooree	5
Total number	47

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 30th January 1810.

To His Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett,
Commander-in-Chief, &c.

Honourable Sir :

1. I have the honour of submitting, for your Excellency's consideration, the enclosed copy of a letter which I recently addressed to the commanding officer of the troops at Nandparra, by the desire of his Excellency the Vizier, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter, and a copy of Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath's answer to it, containing a detail of that officer's sentiments on the subject of a general arrangement for the future protection and tranquillity of his Excellency the Vizier's possessions on the left bank of the Gogra.

2. I am not aware of any other objection to the establishment of a military post in the neighbourhood of the fortress of Nandparra, than its tendency to frustrate the object which your Excellency had in view by the junction of the two detachments formerly stationed at Buhramgauth and Secrora ; and this objection might perhaps be obviated by the removal of the head-quarters of the battalion in Baraitch from the post of Secrora to Nandparra, and the occupation of the latter post by a detachment of two or three companies of Sepoys, to be relieved monthly, as in the case of Seetapore and Buhramgauth.

3. I am persuaded that his Excellency the Vizier will most cheerfully acquiesce in any arrangement which your Excellency may be pleased to prescribe on this occasion ; and with the view of securing the tranquillity of the district, and meeting the Vizier's wishes, until your Excellency's pleasure shall be known, I have instructed the commanding officer of the troops in Baraitch to detach a sufficient force to Nandparra, for the relief of the right wing of the second battalion Sixteenth Regiment, which has been ordered to proceed to Muttra with all convenient expedition.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th January 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the Troops in Nandparra.

Sir :

1. I solicit the favour of your attention to the enclosed copies of documents which have passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, on the subject of a general arrangement for the protection of the district of Nandparra, and on the expediency of destroying or preserving the fortresses which have recently been reduced in that district.

2. When you shall have considered the general subject of those documents with that attention which its importance suggests, and shall have applied to the discussion of each of the points at issue that degree of local information which you have obtained by a personal inspection of all the forts in the district, you will be pleased to report your opinion on the several questions which are mentioned in his Excellency's letter, and particularly on the expediency of maintaining the fortress of Nandparra as a post for a British detachment, as well as the strength of the detachment which might be required in that position with a view to the protection of the district.

3. Respecting the forts of Hyderghur and Roderghur, and every other strong hold in the province of Baraitch, it is my decided opinion that they ought to be immediately destroyed ; and I shall be happy to learn that the local knowledge which you have recently obtained does not preclude you from concurring in this opinion.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th December 1809.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 Jan. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 Jan. 1810.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier, dated 17th Zecaud 1224.

I have received your letter of the 13th instant, acquainting me of advices having reached you from Colonel MacGrath of the surrender of Roderghur, &c. and suggesting the demolition of all the forts in Nandparra.

Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan represents the works of the fort of Nandparra to be so extensive as to require a garrison of at least three hundred men. He suggests the addition of two hundred more to the party of one hundred already there under Meer Mahmood Alee; and he remarks that, if a force of less strength be left there, the rebel Roshun Khan may be induced to commit disturbances when the army now assembled shall march away. For Roderghur he requires a garrison of one hundred men, which will also afford protection to the villages of the districts of Gurga Gunge, &c.; and for the fort of Hyderghur, which lies on the frontier of Nepaul, a hundred men will be indispensable, otherwise the Rajahs of the Terai and the dependants of the Goorkha Government will seize upon those places. It will be requisite, in the Hukeem's opinion, to keep a detachment of two hundred horse and four hundred foot continually in the field for the space of a year, in order to preserve the tranquillity of the country and to protect it from his depredations, which might otherwise preclude the realization of any part of the revenues. In consequence of this representation on the part of the Hukeem, I have been induced to issue orders to him, directing him to level the defences of the fort of Nandparra and to destroy the jungle which surrounds it, but to preserve the circumvallation and the buildings. As to razing the forts of Roderghur and Hyderghur, which lie on the Goorkha frontier, it appears to me to be rather more expedient to maintain them; I accordingly request your advice respecting the garrisons which they may require, that I may issue the necessary instructions. If you think it right that a detachment of British troops should be stationed in that quarter, the fort of Nandparra with its buildings shall be given up for their accommodation, if you desire it.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written 19th Zecaud 1224.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 17th instant, informing me of the representation made by Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan of the extensiveness of the fort of Nandparra, &c. &c. (recapitulate it). Your Excellency has already been apprized of the recent arrangement for uniting at Secrora the two detachments of British troops which were formerly posted there and at Buhramgauth, by which means the force at the former station will consist of a complete battalion; and this arrangement, it is not to be doubted, will effectually control the designs of the mountaineers and of all other insurgents, in any attempts which they might otherwise be disposed to make against the peace of your Excellency's possessions. The entire demolition, therefore, of all the forts which have been taken, seems to me to be highly expedient and unobjectionable in every point of view. I think it also expedient, however, for the present, that a party of sufficient strength, consisting of horse and foot, from the force now under Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, should remain for the protection of Nandparra and the towns in its vicinity, and be posted near the site of the fortress, for which purpose the circumvallation may be preserved; and if hereafter it be found necessary to employ a more efficient detachment in that quarter, it can be furnished with ease and despatch by the corps stationed at Secrora, in the same manner as detachments have occasionally been sent from Seetapore to Mohumdy and other places. On the subject of the other points suggested by your Excellency, as no satisfactory arrangement can be formed for the general defence and protection of any portion of a country without actual observation, and as I have never had an opportunity of visiting the district in question, it is my intention

to

to make a reference to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, whose local knowledge of the country will enable him to convey to me the information required. Your Excellency shall be informed of the result of this reference, and of my own sentiments on the general subject of it, with the least practicable delay.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 Jan. 1810

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 29th ultimo, with its enclosures, being copies of a correspondence which has recently passed between you and his Excellency the Vizier, on the subject of an arrangement for the future protection of the district of Nandparra.

In delivering my sentiments on the subject in question, I feel the greater confidence in the justice of my opinion, as it is founded on personal inquiry and local observation, which I have had a favourable opportunity of acquiring in the course of the service I am now employed upon.

With regard to the fort of Hyderghur, which was the most advanced northerly position in the Nandparra district, I have still the same opinion that its destruction was unavoidable. Its situation is in the midst of the saul forest, and could only serve as a strong hold for a marauding party or a repository for plunder, to which latter purpose I am informed it was generally appropriated by the late possessor, Roshun Khan. The effectual manner I caused it to be destroyed must render it in future totally useless. The ground on which it stood was cleared of trees and jungle for the space of fifty yards round the ditch, beyond which the forest is not less than six miles deep in any direction.

The fortified village of Cherdah, situated about seven miles north-east of Nandparra, is no longer formidable since the guns have been taken from it. Any strength it now possesses is very trifling; and if the defences are to be entirely demolished, it would deprive the inhabitants of the only protection they had for their cattle, &c., against thieves. I am decidedly of opinion that any further notice of this place is unnecessary.

Roderghur is a small but strong ghurry, about ten miles south-east of Nandparra, and has been in possession of Balek Ram since the enemy were dispossessed of it. Its situation would serve as an advanced intermediate post between Nandparra and Baraitch; or in case it was found necessary to establish a post for the occupation of a police thannah, or accommodation of the Chuckludar's people. Under any of these considerations, I would recommend it to be kept up; otherwise I am not aware of any reason why it should not be destroyed.

I make no hesitation in repeating what I have already recommended, that the establishment of a military post at Nandparra is the only effectual mode for ensuring the security and tranquillity of the district. The longer I reflect on the expediency of this measure, the more forcibly I am convinced of its propriety. It may be looked upon as the frontier of the district, and its position commands the most vulnerable point from whence attack is to be dreaded. The establishment of a British force in this quarter would give confidence to the inhabitants, and perhaps be the means of inducing the principal Zemindars to discharge the greater proportion of their armed men, which they are now necessitated to keep up, in defence of themselves and property against the formidable attacks of the Nepaulese and Goorkha tribes, who frequently infest this part of the country.

If a military cantonment should be established here, I consider the destruction of the fort immaterial. The works are now in a very unfinished state. One-half of the northern, southern, and the whole western faces, have no other defences of consequence besides thick thorny bamboo fences. The new works are certainly strong, and very extensive, the demolition of which will be tedious and expensive. The country, particularly to the south and westward

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

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30 Jan. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

of the fort, is high, dry, perfectly open, and from what I can learn, has always been considered a healthy spot.

In stating the force that might eventually be fixed here, I conceive that a complete battalion and a few cavalry, if they can be spared, would be necessary until the district was perfectly settled, after which the detachment might with safety be reduced to five companies and a gun.

As you have required my opinion on such points as have come under my immediate observation, I have confined my remarks to the Nandparra division of the district. As I advance in the execution of my duty, I shall be particular in continuing my reports on the expediency of destroying or maintaining such places as I shall have occasion to proceed against.

Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan having reported that the business which has hitherto delayed him here is completed, I shall consequently march, accompanied by the first battalion of the Ninth Regiment and squadron of cavalry.

Major Bird's detachment will continue stationary at this post until the receipt of further instructions from you, or the Major-General commanding in the field.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nandparra,
1st January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding a detachment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th February 1810.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General George Hewett, Vice-President in Council, Fort William.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copies of letters which have recently passed between me and Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, regarding the military operations in the district of Baraitch, together with a copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Major-General St. Leger, commanding the troops in the field, and copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two separate despatches, dated the 5th and 6th instant.

2. On the subject of the first of those despatches a reference has been made to the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, whose commands shall be made known to you hereafter.

3. The substance of your letter, dated the 6th instant, has been communicated to his Excellency the Vizier, who will issue the necessary orders to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan for the supply of a sufficient number of Bildars to demolish the fortress of Peagpoor with all practicable expedition.

4. Regarding the request of the Rajah of Gungrole to be permitted to retain his fort in its present condition, both his Excellency the Vizier and myself are decidedly of opinion that it is inexpedient in the highest degree to acquiesce in such a proposition, and that the only security which can be had for the future allegiance or fidelity of any Zemindar in Baraitch, is the unconditional surrender and entire demolition of every fortress and strong hold, of whatever description, in the district.

5. We

5. We have already, in the instance of Peagpoor, a melancholy example of the means of resistance to authority, and destructive opposition even to regular troops, which the protection of a fortress, however small, affords to a handful of desperate men with only matchlocks in their hands; and the recurrence of such an example as this can be prevented alone by those measures which you are instructed to execute and superintend, namely, the capture and entire demolition of all the forts in the district.

6. A departure from the usual mode of communication with this office having occurred in one or two of your recent despatches, I deem it to be my duty to inform you, that the reports of all military operations in the Vizier's dominions should be addressed, in the first instance, directly to the Resident at Lucknow, and that the manner which you have adopted on this occasion, namely, that of transmitting copies of your reports to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, for my information, is inconsistent with established observances.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th January, 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extracts from Letters from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch, to Captain John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, under dates the 10th and 11th January 1810.

Letters from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

In the list of places situated in the Baraitch district, with which you furnished me, wherein guns are stated to be mounted, I beg leave to notice the forts of Bingah and Hunnoomanpore, both of which I understand are within the Bhow Begum's country; and as I do not think it would be proper to interfere with either of these places without particular instructions, I request you will inform me how I am to act.

I am happy to inform you, that I have succeeded in gaining possession of eight guns in the course of the present service. I expect four more to day, and I hope the remainder will be delivered up without further trouble.

I entertain sanguine hopes of being in possession of every piece of ordnance in this part of the district, subject to the Vizier's authority, by the time I am favoured with your reply to this letter.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 9th instant. However satisfied I must remain with your decision on the expediency of demolishing every place coming under the denomination of a fort, ghurry, or stronghold in the district, indiscriminately, I cannot avoid noticing the dissatisfaction which a step of this nature will unavoidably be productive of. There are many places in the district wherein a line of distinction ought to be drawn: for instance, villages, whose only defence consists in a small ditch and perhaps an indifferent bamboo fence, which sort of defences only afford protection to the inhabitants against thieves or small banditties who infest the district. Such places, if occupied by people whose fidelity and obedience have hitherto been unimpeachable, should, in my opinion, merit a partial consideration, before the offensive resolution of depriving them of all protection is resorted to.

That all forts or ghurries expressly built for supporting the independence of any particular Zemindar, or occupied by people who on any former occasion have displayed a spirit of resistance to his Excellency's authority, I perfectly agree with you in the necessity, as well as the propriety, of destroying them; but before I persist in the execution of this duty, I am decidedly of opinion it will be advisable first to obtain the surrender of all guns in the possession of such Zemindars as have expressed their acquiescence to deliver them up.

You must be sensible of the absolute necessity which exists, of causing as many Bildars as can be procured to be sent out for carrying into execution the destruction of those places; and I beg leave to remark, that it would materially accelerate the performance of the service, if forty or fifty maunds of gun-
powder

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Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

powder could be provided to blow up such places as this, where the effect of one mine would be more than equal to the work of a hundred Bildars in one day.

The demolition of Peagpoor will be completely effected to-day, and I shall move with my detachment towards Gungrole to-morrow morning, the proprietor of which I am in hopes will not hesitate delivering up the remainder of his guns, two of which I have already received. I shall not commence on the destruction of that place, until I can obtain a compliance with my requisition from the remainder of the Zemindars on the subject of surrendering their guns, on the delivery of which they conceive their ghurries will be spared.

True extracts :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant.

I have made particular inquiries respecting the strength and resources of Hunnoomanpore, situated in her Highness the Bhow Begum's jagier; and if my information should prove correct, I apprehend it will be necessary to call for the aid of a reinforcement of troops. I mention this circumstance, that you may be prepared to make the necessary arrangements should its reduction be unavoidable. At all events, I hope you will agree with me in the propriety of deferring the employment of this detachment in the Begum's jagier until the service in his Excellency the Vizier's country is completed.

The Rajahs of Gungrole and Ikanah have surrendered part of their guns, and I expect the remainder in the course of this day or to-morrow. The destruction of those places must unavoidably lay over until the arrival of the establishment of Bildars, &c. I requested might be furnished in my letter of the 11th instant. To avoid delay I shall march towards Bulrampore to-morrow, where I am in hopes the Rajah will not persist in holding out against this detachment.

The place of greatest consequence to be attacked is Toolseepore, which is represented as a very strong fort, situated about six coss north-east of Bulrampore, in which seven guns are stated to be mounted, and garrisoned by a formidable body of troops, who I understand are not inclined to surrender their fort or guns without compulsion. Before this fort is attacked, I deem it would be advisable to apprise the Magistrate of the zillah of Goruckpore, in order that the troops at that station, or Captain Gunge, may be in readiness to act as circumstances might require.

I have, &c.

Camp, Kureejah,
13th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 13th instant.

2. On a reference to her Highness the Bhow Begum, I find that the recent conduct of the present possessor of Hunnoomanpore renders the reduction of that fortress an object of the greatest importance, not only to the realization of her Highness's revenue, but also to the tranquillity of the district of Goonda at large, and of the Vizier's possessions which are contiguous; but I concur entirely with you, in the expediency of concluding the service in Baraitch before you proceed to the district of Goonda, when I trust that the appearance of your detachment with the battering train will be sufficient to induce the Zemindars to surrender their fortresses and guns.

3. Rajah

3. Rajah Sheo Sing, Zemindar of Bingah, in the Begum's jagier, has recently afforded so many proofs of submission and attachment to the Government, that some indulgence with regard to the demolition of his small fortress might, in my opinion, with propriety be shewn to him; on the condition of his surrendering his guns, and engaging for the surrender of all disaffected and rebellious subjects of the Vizier's Government, who may hereafter take refuge in his zemindary.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. Regarding the supply of Bildars and of gunpowder for the demolition of the forts in Baraitch, I have made a second and more earnest application to his Excellency the Vizier, who will, I doubt not, adopt the necessary measures with the least practicable delay. With the view, however, of precluding any unnecessary detention of your detachment in the superintendence of the destruction of the forts, I request that you will be pleased to deliver over every fort, as it may come into your possession, to the Vizier's Aumil, Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, whose receipt you will be pleased to demand for it, and transmit that receipt to me, for the purpose of being delivered to his Excellency, as a proof that his Aumil alone is responsible for any further delay which may occur, as well as for the consequences which that delay may hereafter occasion.

5. With reference to the subject of the concluding paragraph of your letter, the necessary communication shall be made to the Judge and Magistrate of Goruckpore.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th January 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and its enclosure, dated the 15th instant.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

On my arrival at Bulrampore, I found that the ghurries had been destroyed for some time past, and the Rajah now resides in a small village named Bellah, about two coss from hence. His guns have been demanded, but he denies being possessed of any. I have summoned the Zemindar of Toolseepore to surrender all the guns in his possession, two of which he has given up. His place of residence does not prove to be of any strength, although I was given to understand the contrary at first; it is merely a village surrounded by a small ruinous wall, situated in a waste part of the district under the hills, where no water is procurable except from the wells inside the village, and forage is very scarce: I am consequently of opinion, if the Zemindar gives up the remainder of his guns, there will be no necessity for removing the detachment to that place, particularly as the rivers Rapti and Boree Rapti intersect the road thither, the former of which must be crossed on rafts.

I have communicated your wish to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan on the subject of taking charge of the gurries in the district; but he informs me that he cannot become personally responsible, without he is furnished with a force to garrison them. At the same time he states, what I know to be the case, that the Zemindars who now hold possession of them will always be found ready to obey any summons for their surrender. The Zemindars of Ikanah and Gungrole have both declared, on giving up their guns, that they do not now, nor ever have entertained any idea of resisting the authority of his Excellency the Vizier: they merely wish to keep their ghurries for the protection of their families, and whatever little property they are possessed of. The Zemindars in the vicinity of Secrora have sent intimation that their guns will be given up as soon as I think proper to demand them; and except for the reduction of Hunnoomanpore in the Begum's country, I am not aware of any further service that can be required from this detachment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

I shall give notice to Rajah Sheo Sing of Bingah that his guns are required ; and until his reply is received, I propose remaining at Bulrampore, after which I intend moving towards Secrora.

I have, &c.

Camp, Bulrampore,
17th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding
a Detachment in Baraitch.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

In reporting to you the service in this district, I have to inform you that I have collected eighteen pieces of cannon, all of which I have given in charge to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, to be disposed of as may hereafter be considered expedient.

On receipt of your letter directing the guns of the Bingah Zemindar to be taken, I sent a summons to that effect, to which I this day received an indirect reply. I have accordingly thought it advisable to detach five companies to Bingah, with orders to the officer commanding, that, in case the smallest hesitation is made for the immediate delivery of the guns, to inform me by express, and I will move with the battering train and the remainder of the detachment against the fort. In the mean time preparations are going forward to cross the park over the Rapti, in case of necessity.

The Bulrampore Rajah has at length thought proper to give up his two guns, but not until threats of severity were used.

The Toolseepore Zemindar has sent in two of his guns, and I hope to obtain the remainder without further delay.

As the service in this quarter of the district will be concluded when I receive the guns from Bingah, I propose moving towards Hunnoomanpore, as that place lies on my route towards Secrora.

I am in hopes that as the Bildars have not yet arrived, the idea of destroying Ikanah and Gungrole is given up. The Aumil agrees with me in the propriety of sparing not only those, but all such places as are occupied by peaceable and well-disposed Zemindars, and that those only should suffer that belong to suspicious or rebellious owners.

As I am informed that the Zemindar of Bumowrah (situated six coss southwest of Secrora) is willing to surrender his guns, I think it would be advisable to authorize Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert to detach a small party to receive charge of them, instead of carrying the whole of this detachment so much out of the road.

I have, &c.

Camp, Bulrampore,
20th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding a
Detachment in Baraitch.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two separate despatches, dated the 17th and 20th instant, the substance of both of which has been communicated to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. I am happy to observe, that your first information regarding the strength of the forts of Bulrampore and Toolseepore has proved to be erroneous, and that no resistance to authority, nor delay in the surrender of their guns, is to be expected from the Zemindars of those districts.

3. Regarding Ikanah and Gungrole, as well as every other fortress in Baraitch, my letter of the 9th instant, to your address, and the repeated orders of his Excellency

cellency the Vizier to his Aumil, were so entirely explicit and express, that his Excellency and myself have both felt surprize and concern at your persisting in the suggestion of preserving those fortresses on any footing whatever; far less in the possession of the Zemindars. A thousand Bildars, with a hundred maunds of gunpowder for the purpose of destroying the forts, have already been despatched to your camp, by the orders of his Excellency the Vizier.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. With the view of aiding the effect of your summons to Rajah Sheo Sing, Zemindar of Bingah, in the Begum's jagier, I enclose a purwannah addressed to that person, which you will be pleased to transmit to him without delay; and in the case of his surrendering his guns and forwarding a written engagement, in the terms of the third paragraph of my letter of the 15th instant, you will consider the operations of your detachment, with a reference to him, as at an end, and proceed against the fortress of Hunnoomanpore on your route towards Secrora, as is stated to be your intention in your last despatch to my address.

5. As the detachment of any part of the force under Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert's command at Secrora, against a fort or Zemindar from whom the smallest degree of resistance can be apprehended, is in direct and manifest opposition to the repeated orders of the Government, I am precluded from adopting your suggestion with regard to the Zemindar of Bumowrah, and I request that you will adopt the necessary measures with a reference to that person, when the other more important objects of the service of your detachment shall be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
22d January 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22d instant.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

My letter of the 20th will have acquainted you that I had sent a detachment of five companies towards Bingah, for the purpose of receiving the Rajah's guns. Captain Vaughan, who commanded the party, reports his having gained possession of three of the number, but that the Rajah refuses to acknowledge having any more, an assertion which I know to be false. I have, therefore, resolved on moving the detachment towards Bingah, when I am in hopes the appearance of the battering train will induce him to surrender the remaining two guns without further trouble or delay. I shall cross the Bapiti to-morrow morning at Muturahghaut, where there is a tolerably good ford.

My chief reason for recommending that a line of distinction should be drawn with respect to the destruction of the forts in this district, proceeded from a conviction of its necessity, inasmuch as the Zemindars having been deprived of their ghurries and guns indiscriminately, they must inevitably be exposed to the greatest danger from the attacks of the hill people, unless a British force is kept up in this part of the country to protect them against those marauders. I always considered your orders perfectly explicit on this subject, and they should certainly have been carried into effect without the least hesitation, had I been furnished with the means, a circumstance which, if considered, ought to have dissipated your surprise and concern, in finding I had persisted in my former opinions, which I conceived I could not be wrong in giving, as long as I was left without the possibility of complying with your instructions. When the Bildars and gunpowder arrive, I shall lose no time in setting about the destruction of the ghurries, as you have ordered, in the execution of which duty the utmost expedition will be observed. The ghurry of Roderghur lies in the vicinity of Nandparra, the demolition of which could be conveniently effected by the Bildars of the Nandparra district, who are now employed there. The ghurry is occupied by the Chuckludar's people, and can consequently be destroyed at any time without the aid of a military force.

In

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

In addition to the number of guns reported in my last letter to have been surrendered, I beg leave to acquaint you that I have gained possession of seven more, making in all twenty-five pieces of ordnance.

I have, &c.

Camp, Kowndrie,
Banks of the Rapti,
24th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding
a Detachment in Baraitch.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I beg leave to inform you that Captain Vaughan joined me with his party from Bingah this morning, bringing along with him five guns, which, after much prevarication and delay, the Rajah at length consented to give up. Two of them are coarse unfinished wall-pieces, and I have reason to believe never formed any part of the number he was reported to be in possession of. I have sent your purwannah to the Rajah, with a letter from myself requesting his attendance in camp, when I shall have the necessary obligation taken, as specified in the third paragraph of your letter of the 15th instant.

I encamped at Ikanah this morning preparatory to demolishing the works of the fort. The Rajah and his people require a short time to remove their families and effects from the place, by the expiration of which I hope the Bildars and gunpowder may arrive, as stated to have been despatched in your letter of the 22d instant; but if I should be disappointed in my expectation, I shall march against Hunnoomanpore and return again at a future period to this place.

I have, &c.

Camp, Ikanah,
25th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment in Baraitch.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to enclose a Persian letter to your address from the Rajah of Bingah, likewise a letter from the same person to me in reply to one I wrote him on the subject of coming into camp, which you will observe he has declined doing. As you expressed your wish that this man's fort should be spared, upon condition he surrendered his guns and entered into an engagement to give up all rebels and outlaws that may at any time take refuge within his district, I feel at a loss how to act on the occasion. That he has other guns besides those which he has given up there can be no doubt: a circumstance that did not come to my knowledge until after the arrival of Captain Vaughan's detachment from Bingah on the 25th instant.

The Vakeel who was the bearer of the letters herewith sent I did not consider it proper to admit into my presence: I accordingly dismissed him from camp with a verbal message to the Rajah, forbidding any further communication except he appeared in person.

The contents of the third paragraph of your letter of the 25th instant (which I have just now received) have been communicated to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, who desired me to say he will order the Chuckludar to take charge of such places as I gain possession of, until the troops from Nandparra arrive, but that he can place little or no dependence on those people, as they are but lately entertained.

I have, &c.

Camp, Ikanah,
27th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding a
Detachment in Baraitch.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two separate despatches, dated the 25th and 27th instant, with their respective enclosures.

2. The letters and obligation transmitted by the Rajah of Bingah appear to me to be perfectly satisfactory, and I am not aware of any useful purpose which could have been answered by the Rajah's personal attendance on you.

3. Your dismissal, therefore, of his Vakeel, in the manner described in your despatch of the 27th instant, on any other ground than that of your possessing certain information of his having concealed or withholden his guns, appears to me to have been unnecessary : and with the view of ascertaining, beyond a doubt, that all his guns have been surrendered, I transmit another purwannah, which you will be pleased to forward without delay ; and in the case of your receiving a satisfactory answer, you will consider the intention of this Government with a reference to the Rajah of Bingah as fulfilled. A copy of the enclosed purwannah is also transmitted for your information.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th January 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Sheo Sing, Zemindar of Bingah.

Sir :

I have received your arzee in answer to my purwannah, and have also perused the letter and obligation which you transmitted to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath.

The assurance of submission and fidelity which is contained in those documents, and more particularly the voluntary surrender of so many of your guns, is gratifying and satisfactory to my mind : but Colonel MacGrath has conveyed to me a suspicion, founded on information which that officer has received, of your having secreted or withholden some of your guns ; a circumstance which induces my most lively regret on your account, and the confirmation of which must inevitably subject you to the highest displeasure of this Government, and supersede the favourable consideration which your former services have obtained.

With the view of removing the suspicion which is thus entertained of your conduct, I desire that you will prepare and transmit to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, without any delay, a second obligation, under your seal, in the terms of the draft under-written.

" I, Sheo Sing, do hereby most solemnly declare, that all the guns which I possessed have been delivered over, agreeably to orders, to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath ; and if, at any future period, a gun of any description be proved to be in my possession, I acknowledge myself to be convicted of disloyalty, and justly subjected to expulsion from my fort and zemindary, and to every other punishment which the pleasure of the Government may inflict on me. In witness whereof, &c. &c."

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

After despatching my letter of the 27th instant, I received positive information that the Rajah of Bingah was in possession of four other guns besides those which he had given up ; I accordingly resolved on moving towards the fort yesterday morning with the detachment under my command. The Rajah, on receiving intimation of the movement, immediately sent in two more of his guns, and in the course of last night he deserted the fort, and fled into the jungles with his family and effects.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

On arriving this morning at Bingah I was met by Meer Samin Ally, one of her Highness the Bhow Begum's Aumils; and having no means of destroying the fort, I have delivered over charge of it to him. I intend ordering the battering train across the Rapti to-morrow, and I shall follow the day after with the remainder of the detachment on the route towards Hunnoomanpore.

Previous to marching from Ikanah, I placed Balek Ram, the Chuckludar, in possession of that fort; and if the Bildars and gunpowder do not arrive against my return thither, I shall not delay on that account, but leave the place as it is at present occupied.

I have, &c.

Camp, Bingah,
30th January 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding a
Detachment in Baraitch.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo.

2. Under the particular circumstances which you have stated, your movement towards the fortress of Bingah was highly judicious and proper, and the result of that movement, in the evacuation of the fortress in question, is satisfactory in the highest degree.

3. I have communicated the substance of your despatch to his Excellency the Vizier and to her Highness the Bhow Begum, and I have suggested in the strongest terms to her Highness, the necessity of the immediate demolition of Bingah, which will, I doubt not, be carried into effect.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
3d February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major-General W. St. Leger, commanding the Troops in the Field at Cawnpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 7th instant, suggesting the expediency of the relief of the first battalion of the Ninth Regiment from the duties of the district of Baraitch, and recalling to my recollection the subject of a despatch to your address from the Adjutant-General of the Army, under date the 18th ultimo.

2. From intelligence conveyed to me by his Excellency the Vizier, as well as from the substance of a despatch which I have recently received from Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert, an extract from which is enclosed, there seems great reason to doubt the authenticity of the information of Roshun Khan's flight to Khyreeghur, as reported by the Governor-General's agent at Barellie; and consequently the object of the expedition to Khyreeghur, in as far as this Government is concerned, seems to me to be entirely superseded, while, on the other hand, the general belief of the inhabitants of Nandparra and Baraitch, that Roshun Khan is still concealed in the neighbourhood, and meditates a return to Nandparra, renders the movement of either of the divisions of Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert's battalion to any distance from their present positions, in my opinion, highly inexpedient.

3. It follows, therefore, according to my judgment, that neither the projected service in the district of Khyreeghur, as suggested by the Governor-General's agent at Barellie, nor the conclusion of the more important service in Baraitch, on which Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath with his corps is employed, can be undertaken by Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert's battalion, or by any portion of that corps, without the most imminent danger of the return of the rebel Roshun Khan, and a renewal of the disturbances in Nandparra; and, consequently, that the

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the relief of the first battalion of the Ninth Regiment from the duties of Baraich, or the return of that corps to Seetapore before the conclusion of the service in which it is engaged, is inexpedient in the highest degree.

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Consultations,
20 Feb. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. The enclosed copies of letters which I have recently addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, will apprize you of the measures which I have adopted for the furtherance of the public service on which that officer is employed; and I have every reason to hope that he will soon possess an abundant supply of gunpowder, bildars, &c., for the purpose of demolishing the forts, of which I am now happy to inform you that but a very few remain to be taken.

5. I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this instant received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, conveying the satisfactory intelligence of the surrender of the strong fortress of Hunnoomanpore, and further, a copy of a letter received from the commanding officer of Pertaubghur, to the subject of the latter of which I request your particular attention.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extracts from a Despatch from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath to the Resident at Lucknow, dated the 7th February 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant Denty.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert, commanding at Secrora.

Sir:

I am sorry to inform you, for the information of the Resident at Lucknow, that I have this instant received accounts, that a rebel force was within two coss of this place last night; that they attacked and burned the village of Khyra. I am also sorry to say that two villagers were killed, and three have just arrived in camp badly wounded: many also, I fear, have shared the same fate. I have directed the native doctor to dress their wounds and to afford them every relief in his power.

I have, &c.

Nandparra,
5th February 1810.

(Signed) H. F. DENTY,
Lieutenant, commanding at Nandparra.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you of my arrival before the fort of Hunnoomanpore (or Maduc), on the 5th instant, with the detachment under my command.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

The day I encamped before the fort, the Killadar evinced a hesitation to comply with my summons relative to surrendering the place; a circumstance that induced me to commence on preparing the necessary materials for constructing a battery, which were yesterday evening in a state of forwardness, when I received a message from Hullopooree, the Killadar, expressive of his inclination to give up the fort. Satisfied that the offer was sincere, I required his attendance in camp, a requisition which he immediately complied with; and in the course of the interview I succeeded in gaining his promise that I should be placed in possession this morning: an engagement which, I am happy to say, he has punctually observed. With the fort two guns have been surrendered, and the remainder, which he disclaims any exclusive control over, will be sent into camp without delay.

The surrender of this fort I look upon as a fortunate circumstance. It is remarkably strong and in thorough repair, and defended by a strong garrison. I expect the supply of gunpowder which was sent from Lucknow in the course of to-morrow: in the mean time the mines are preparing for the destruction of the fort, which I hope will be completed in three or four days. There is likewise a small ghurry, named Runypoor, belonging to the Ghossein, which shall be destroyed immediately afterwards, likewise the fort belonging to the Raiah

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Rajah of Gungrole will be demolished, both situated immediately in this neighbourhood.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

Before I marched from Ikana I had the mines in readiness for its destruction ; but being disappointed in the receipt of gunpowder to spring them, I was induced to leave the place at the solicitation of the Rajah, who voluntarily offered to destroy the works in any manner I thought proper to point out. I was further induced to accept of the Rajah's offer, as the season was fast advancing when it would be difficult and hazardous employing troops in situations where they would be exposed to the weather ; and as I had reason to expect resistance at this place, I was anxious to bring the service to as early a termination as possible.

I propose detaching five companies, under the command of Captain Vaughan, as soon as I receive the gunpowder, to superintend the destruction of Rhewa, the proprietor of which has given up his guns and is ready to submit to the demolition of his ghurry. After this duty is completed, I mean to move against Bumowrah, the possession of which, I hope, will terminate the service to be performed in this district.

I have, &c.

Camp, Hunnoomanpore,
7th February 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Letter from
Major Nuthall.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, and in reply to inform you, that in obedience to the instructions therein contained, a squadron of the third Regiment Native Cavalry has been ordered to proceed from hence on the morning of the 8th, by the nearest route, for Bundlecund.

Major Raban, a few days previous to delivering over the command of this post, detached a Jemadar's party of Cavalry to Behar ; but as I am not aware of the necessity of this measure, or of their being continued there, and as I shall shortly be obliged to send a troop to Elahabad, to escort treasure from thence for the troops here which are now going on four months in arrears, and there will then be scarcely a relief for duty left in the lines, I hope my ordering the recall of this party will meet with your approbation.

I transmit a letter to my address from Zalim Sing, received yesterday. From what I can discover of his views from the person who delivered it, and which is corroborated by other accounts, I am induced to entertain a belief that it is his intention to commence his depredations on the country as soon as the crops now on the ground shall become ripe.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
6th February 1810..

(Signed) J. NUTHALL,
Major, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment at Baraitch.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 7th instant, conveying the agreeable intelligence of the surrender of the fortress of Hunnoomanpore, and your hope of the speedy conclusion of the service on which you are engaged.

2. I congratulate you on the success of your detachment against the fortress of Hunnoomanpore, and transmit a purwannah to the address of the Aumil of Goonda, desiring the immediate demolition of that fortress and of Bingah, and all other places of strength within her Highness the Begum's jagier.

3. In the contemplation of his Excellency the Vizier's annual hunting excursion, during which he is always attended by one battalion of Sepoys, and the presence

presence of a complete battalion is indispensable at Lucknow, I am apprehensive that your detachment of Captain Vaughan with the second company of the first battalion of the Twenty-first Regiment, which is the corps to be left at Lucknow, will be productive of public inconvenience; and I request that you will take the earliest opportunity which may offer, of dispensing with the service of two companies of Sepoys from the whole strength of your detachment, to direct Captain Vaughan, with those of the first battalion of the Twenty-first Regiment, to rejoin his corps at Lucknow.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. If you deem it important to the accomplishment of the remaining objects of the service on which you are employed to have two companies in the room of those in question, I beg that you will inform me, without delay, when I shall direct the relief of those companies, by a detachment of equal strength from the division of Colonel Mabert's corps at Secrora.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the foregoing despatch do lie for consideration.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 27th February 1810.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 Feb. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 9th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have more recently received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the troops in Baraitch, together with a copy of my answer to that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
14th February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to inform you that I arrived in the vicinity of Secrora yesterday morning on my way to Bumowrah.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

Dowcul Sing, the Zemindar of Bumowrah, on hearing of the approach of this detachment, deserted his place of residence, which is situated on the banks of the Gogra, and fled across the river towards the purgunnah of Deriabad with his guns, according to his usual custom. I proceeded thither this morning with a small party to inspect the place; and instead of finding a fort, it proves to be nothing more than a small ghurry, or fortified house on the banks of the river, capable of containing forty or fifty men, outside of which there are a few choppered habitations enclosed by a thorn hedge, for the accommodation of his people. The place can be destroyed by a few bildars in the course of a day; but I have not allowed it to be pulled down, under the idea that it would be a proper place to post a small party of troops in case it was found necessary to follow the Zemindars. In the meantime I would recommend a native officer, and about thirty sepoy, to be sent there from the Secrora post, until you determine what is to be done.

Bumowrah is situated seven miles to the southward of Secrora. Its position is strong, being in an island formed by a small branch of the Gogra, opposite a ghaut, where there are no boats but what this Zemindar keeps to cross and recross the river in case of being attacked.

Q

I have

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Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

I have for the present desired Hukeem Melidi Alee Khan to furnish a party of his men to occupy the place, until you determine whether it would be proper to detach the party I have recommended should be detached from the post of Secrora.

I shall move to-morrow towards Rhewa, where five companies are gone in advance: and after that place is destroyed, which will be effected in the course of a few days, I am not aware of any further duty that will remain to be performed in the district. I shall then wait your orders relative to the disposal or further employment of the troops under my command.

I communicated the latter paragraph of your letter of the 7th instant to her Highness the Begum's Aumil; and although he was at first averse to accepting your offer of the aid of part of this detachment to assist in superintending the destruction of the fort of Bingah, he is now desirous of taking advantage of your proposal. It is accordingly my intention to furnish him with a company, which with his own force now there ought to be perfectly adequate to the duty, without running the smallest risk.

I have, &c.

Camp near Secrora,
11th February 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding a
Detachment, Baraitch district.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 11th instant, conveying intelligence of the flight of Dowcul Sing with his guns, and your occupation of the small fortress of Bumowrah.

2. I regret that it has not been in your power to prevent the escape of this Zemindar with his guns, which may be productive of unpleasant consequences hereafter; but I am satisfied that the preservation of the ghurry, and its occupation by so small a party of our troops from Secrora, if those measures were expedient or practicable on any other grounds, would by no means avert or diminish the injurious effects to be apprehended from the flight of the Zemindar, and therefore it is my duty to desire that Bumowrah be immediately demolished.

3. Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, as well as yourself, has been repeatedly apprized of his sovereign's sentiments on this subject being in entire concurrence with mine, and therefore it is unnecessary to make any further reference to his Excellency the Vizier, who is prevented from transacting business at present by the religious duties of the Mohurram.

4. Respecting the employment of your detachment after the forts of Bumowrah, Rhewa, and Ikanah shall be destroyed, I can only for the present refer you to the statement of fortresses and guns contained in my despatch of the 27th December last, remarking for your more particular guidance that the forts of Mobarickpore and Jugnapore, and the guns of Isheeree Sing and Bhojung Sing and Shahbaz, have not yet been reported to me in the detail of your proceedings in Baraitch, and that it is the particular desire of his Excellency the Vizier, as well as the wish of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, that every thing which is necessary to be done in that province should be executed at present, while a battering train and every requisite equipment are on the spot.

5. It would be highly satisfactory to me if, before the march of your detachment from the scene of its active operations during a period of so many months, you could procure and transmit to me a written declaration, under the seals of the Vizier's principal officers, Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan and Balek Ram, to certify that all the forts and ghurries in the districts of Nandparra and Baraitch have been taken by your detachment and destroyed, and that no
Zemindar

Zemindar in this district can be considered as possessing the means of further opposition to the Government.

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6. It is my intention to suggest this measure at the first favourable opportunity for the consideration of his Excellency the Vizier, who will, I doubt not, be pleased to issue the necessary orders on the subject to the two Aumils whom I have mentioned.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
13th February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the above despatch do lie for consideration.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 6th March 1810.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 March 1810.

To his Excellency Lieutenant-General G. Hewett, Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c. Fort-William.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 14th instant, I have the honour of submitting to your Excellency the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Major-General St. Leger, commanding the troops in the field, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
22d February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major-General St. Leger, commanding the Troops in the Field at Cawnpore.
Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the detachment in Baraitch, together with a copy of my answer to that letter, and a translation of a letter addressed to Colonel MacGrath by the Vizier's Aumil of Baraitch.

2. From the contents of the latter document you will perceive, that the present state of the district of Baraitch is by no means such as to authorize the removal of Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath's battalion, or that of the squadron of cavalry belonging to the station of Pertaubghur; but I am not aware of any objection to the immediate recall of the battering train: and I trust that on his Excellency the Vizier's arrival in the district of Baraitch, which he proposes visiting in the course of the ensuing month, I shall be enabled to suggest an arrangement for the future conduct of affairs in that province, which will admit of our withdrawing the whole of the extraordinary force, and directing the return of Colonel MacGrath's corps and of the cavalry to their respective cantonments before the beginning of April.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
22d February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations.
6 March 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I had yesterday the honour of receiving your letter of the 14th by express, accompanied by copy of an arzee written by Meer Samin Allee, her Highness the Bhow Begum's Aumil. Your remark relative to the disposition of the native officers in transmitting complaints without any foundation in truth, I acknowledge is evidently applicable to the case in question; and from the communication I held with Meer Samin Allee, I should have suspected him to be the last person who was capable of compiling such an extraordinary mass of misrepresentation.

It would be needless to enter into a particular repetition of every part of the Aumil's arzee; I will therefore confine my remarks to such points as are material. I must, in the first place, acquaint you, that I positively declined allowing the Aumil to interfere with any measures I thought proper to adopt for the capture or surrender of the fortress of Hunnoomanpore, being well aware I could effect separately, by negotiation, what in concert with him would have cost many lives; and from this circumstance alone can I account for the extraordinary representation he has made to you on the subject.

Hulloolpooree, the Chilla of the Ghossein, who had charge of the fort, on learning that I had authority to act independently of the Aumil, immediately sent in offers of surrendering the fort and his guns, upon a promise of security to himself and personal property; terms which I readily agreed to. He soon after waited on me in camp, where he resigned his authority over the place upon the terms I had pledged myself to observe faithfully. He gave up two guns, superior to any the Aumil had with his troops, and offered to forfeit his life, if it hereafter appeared that he was possessed of more. He at the same time mentioned a neighbouring Rajah in the Begum's jagier, whose name I do not recollect, who occasionally supplied him with additional guns, when he was involved in disputes with the Zemindar whose possessions lay contiguous to his.

The motives the Aumil had in view, by wishing me to deliver over the Chilla to him as a prisoner, I have reason to say were very different from what he avows; and I never could have complied with his wishes, without sacrificing my faith to satisfy his avaricious and oppressive designs.

I certainly declined to give over the fort of Bhurtowlee, or Hunnoomanpore, until I had executed your orders, as he had previously expressed a wish of retaining it for the accommodation of a thannah. Instead of one mine, no less than twelve, containing forty-eight maunds of powder, were sprung under the fort, which have not only had the effect of destroying the works, but the foundation is shaken in such a manner as to render it impossible to undergo repair. Ramunpore I always considered in possession of the Aumil: it consisted of a large mud building, where a place of worship is erected, surrounded by a breast-work and deep ditch, which I desired should be levelled, and I furnished the Aumil with a small party of Sepoys to protect his workmen during the time they were employed in demolishing the place. I told him that the Ghossein's dwelling-house or temples should not be destroyed with my concurrence, as they could not be considered any part of the fortification.

The Aumil attended me to Secora, when he expressed his satisfaction at the service this detachment had performed for her Highness, and stated that nothing remained in the district of Goonda to be performed which required the aid of the troops under my command. Before I parted I furnished him with a letter addressed to the officer who was to command the company I intended to detach for the purpose of superintending the destruction of Bingah; a circumstance that must have escaped his memory when he wrote the conclusion of his arzee.

I have detached fifty Bildars, under a guard of Sepoys, to destroy Bumowrah, which will be easily effected in one day. Several other small places inferior to Bumowrah, have likewise been demolished, which I did not include in the statement I had the honour of furnishing you with. The declarations you require from the Chuckludar of the district and Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, are herewith sent; likewise Meer Samin Allee's acknowledgment of having been placed

placed in possession of Bingah, Rameypore, and the destruction of Hunnoomanpore. I have applied to him for a similar declaration to that which Balek Ram has given, and as soon as he furnishes me with it, I shall forward the same to you without delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
a Detachment in Baraitch.

Camp, Rhewa,
18th February 1810.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 March 1810.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 18th instant, with its several inclosures; and I am extremely sorry to observe, from the representation of the Aunil, Balek Ram, whose letter to your address formed one of the enclosures in your despatch, that the state of the district of Baraitch is by no means such as could be wished for, or as, under any circumstances, could authorize my suggesting to his Excellency the Vizier the propriety of withdrawing your battalion, or recalling the squadron of cavalry to Pertaubghur, where its presence is highly desirable.

2. I solicit your particular attention to the subject of Balek Ram's letter, a translation of which is enclosed; and I beg that you will lose no time in adopting the measures which may appear to you to be proper and practicable, with the force under your command, for the suppression of the refractory Zemindars and restoration of the tranquillity of the district.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Translation of a Letter from Balek Ram to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Baraitch, dated the 16th Mohurram 1225, or 21st February 1810.

Letter
from the Aunil.

You have requested me to inform you of the number of forts and guns remaining in this district to be demolished and taken, in order that they also may be captured by the aid of the British detachment, and that the entire tranquillity of the district may be established before the troops be withdrawn. I have accordingly the honour to state to you, that all the forts in this district, for the destruction of which the aid of the British troops was required, have been already taken and demolished, and that you have also taken several guns from the Zemindars against whom you proceeded: indeed, a greater number of guns, on the whole, than was stated in my arzee to the Presence have been taken and delivered over to the Sirkar, but the Zemindars who have fled from their forts, such as Bojung Sing of Peagpoor, Roshun Khan of Nandparra, Dowlut Sing Zemindar of Rhewa, Sheo Sing of Bingah, Dowcul Sing of Bhutowra, and Hunnoomanpore of Bhurtowlee, have all carried several guns with them, and continue in open rebellion. With the exception of the above persons, there are no guns in the possession of any of the Zemindars, nor is there a single fort of consequence to be reduced in the district.

Sic orig.

You are, however, fully aware of the disturbances which still exist in the district, notwithstanding the presence of the troops. On one side, Roshun Khan is committing depredations by night and day; and on the other, Bojung Sing and others plunder the villages and people. Sheo Sing, the Zemindar of Bingah, has collected a number of followers, and is committing depredations in Bulrampore and Ikana: so is Dowcul Sing, the Zemindar of Bhutowra.

Under such circumstances, is it possible that the district can be said to be in a state of tranquillity? or can we ever expect the establishment of peace in the district, unless a force be still employed to check the depredations of the marauders? On the contrary, disturbances will daily increase, since even now, while the detachment is present, depredations are constantly committed. I

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 March 1810.

leave it to yourself to determine what the state of the district will be, if the troops under your command march away from it. Not a single Mahajun o Ryot will enjoy a moment's rest from the oppressions of the refractory Zemindars, and their property and lives will be endangered.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 March 1810.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 20th March 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Lieutenant-General Hewett, Vice President in Council, &c. &c. &c., Fort William.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of submitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Major-General St. Leger, commanding the troops in the field, together with copies of the several documents which are referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
3d March 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major-General St. Leger, commanding the Troops in the Field, Cawnpore.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed copies of letters which have recently passed between me and the commanding officer of the troops at Secrora, together with a copy of a letter which I have this day receive from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, and a copy of my answer to that letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
3d March 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Mabert.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Herewith I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a public letter received from Lieutenant Denty, commanding at Nandparra, under date the 21st instant, for your information.

From the report stated in Lieutenant Denty's letter, it appears that the best part of the outer-works of the fort is entirely destroyed, and that a less force than five companies is fully sufficient for the protection of Nandparra. Should you be of that opinion, and that two companies might be withdrawn with safety, as there are no apprehensions of the enemy's attacking the place, I have to request you will favour me with your further instructions on this subject.

I have, &c.

Secrora,
24th February, 1810.

(Signed) R. MABERT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding Secrora.

Letter from
Lieutenant Denty.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert, commanding Secrora.

Sir :

In reply to the second paragraph of your public letter of the 19th instant, I beg leave to inform you, that it is my opinion that two companies of the present detachment might be withdrawn. Two sides of the outer fort being entirely

destroyed, it will not now be worth the enemy's while to attack it, therefore three companies, I think, will be perfectly sufficient for the protection of Nandparra. I do not believe any large body of the enemy have been in the district since our arrival. Small parties of them have attacked two villages in the neighbourhood, but, from the nature of the country, this is entirely out of my power to prevent; for as I mentioned in a former letter, these parties are constantly changing their positions, and by keeping always in the jungles, it is impossible to pursue them with infantry. I would, therefore, strongly recommend a body of cavalry being stationed here, who might on some occasion surprize these freebooters, and by a severe example prevent the like attacks in future. Small parties of Hindoostanee horse stationed at the different villages in the jungles would, I make no doubt, drive the enemy out of the district altogether; but unless some measures are taken, I see no prospect of its prosperity by the present detachment remaining, for those villages at the distance of a few coss must invariably be subject to attack, without our being able to render them assistance till too late. I have, therefore, to report, that I conceive three companies perfectly sufficient for the protection of Nandparra. With this force, I think it very improbable the enemy would ever think of coming here; but that a party of cavalry is necessary to clear the country and secure the villages from molestation.

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Consultations,
20 March 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant Denty.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nandparra,
21st February 1810.

(Signed) H. F. DENTY,
Lieutenant, commanding Nandparra.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Mabert, commanding the Troops at Secrora.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 24th instant, with its enclosure from Lieutenant Denty to your address.

2. I consider yourself to be the only competent judge of the extent of the force which is required for the protection of Nandparra, and I shall have no hesitation in approving the recall of two companies of Sepoys, if you deem that measure to be expedient.

3. I solicit your particular attention to the enclosed copies of letters which have recently passed between me and Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, respecting the state of affairs in Baraich, and the practicability of an arrangement for the future protection of that district, which will admit of the return of Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath's battalion to Seetapore.

4. I request that you will be pleased to peruse those documents with attention, and to communicate your sentiments on the general subject of them to me with the least practicable delay.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
26th February 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident, Vizier's Court, Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Mabert.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your public letter of the 26th ultimo, with its several enclosures, respecting the affairs in Baraich, and, having attentively perused them, I am aware of no difficulty in making the necessary arrangement required for the future protection of the district, in the manner proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, which might be more easily effected by substituting a troop of cavalry at Nandparra, in the room of two companies of the present force now there, which in that event would be withdrawn, and afford me a greater force at this post, which could be detached on any emergent occasion for the protection of this part of the district.

From all the various statements which I have received from the officer in command at Nandparra, relative to the state of affairs in that district, I am induced to give it as my opinion, that a force consisting of three companies of

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native infantry with a troop of cavalry will be fully adequate to the service required, which with the force proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath to be stationed at or near Bulrampore will protect that part of the frontier from the incursions of the rebellious zemindars, who are stated to have taken refuge in the jungles in that quarter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. MABERT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Secrora.

Secrora,
1st March 1810.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you that the battering-train moved this morning towards Bhyramghaut, on the way back to Cawnpore, under charge of two companies of the second battalion of the Fourth Regiment.

Rajah Sheo Sing of Bingah has expressed a wish to be permitted to return to his zemindary. In reply to his application, I have desired him to withdraw himself and adherents from Bojung Sing and Dultoman Sing's party, and repair to Baraitch, where I would be ready to afford him security of his person and property, and would ensure his pardon on giving into the terms alluded to in your letter of the 25th ultimo. Should the restoration of this Zemindar to his lands be effected (a prospect I have little doubt of), I look upon it that the Peagpoor Zemindars, now in his alliance, will through his influence be given up, or prevented from committing depredations in the district, as the principal number of followers belonging to the party are in the pay and under the exclusive authority of Sheo Sing. I shall move directly to Baraitch, where I mean to stop until I can ascertain whether Sheo Sing is sincere in his offers. With respect to seizing him or any of his associates by force, I fear every endeavour would be fruitless; and any use of force can now be made of would be to prevent the rebels plundering the district, and in case of their venturing any distance from the jungles to cut off their retreat.

The disaffected Zemindars now lurking in the northern extremities of the district are the only people from whom the smallest apprehension is at present to be entertained. They have hitherto remained perfectly tranquil in the jungles, and will not attempt to disturb the peace of the district, as long as a small detachment remains in advance to keep them in check. I shall, in the meantime, use every means in my power to encourage Sheo Sing's return; and should I fail in the attempt, I must only try the effect of following him and his party into their present retreat.

For information relative to the situation of the Zemindars of Bumowrah and Rhewa, who have absconded, I refer you to the Chuckludar's letters herewith enclosed, by which you will perceive that nothing need be apprehended from their disaffection. At the same time I beg leave to state it as my opinion, that both of them will, in the course of a short time, undoubtedly return to a sense of their allegiance.

Hunoomanpore, of Bhurtowlee, having been turned out of his habitation, has been obliged to take up his residence in a jungle on his zemindary. He has repeatedly written to me on the subject of the harsh treatment he has experienced; but as I have not the power of redressing his grievances, I have recommended him to repair to Lucknow and submit his complaints to you in person. I beg leave to enclose a letter I received from him two days ago, from the contents of which I trust you will be sensible of the reason he has to be dissatisfied with the Aumil of Goonda.

A company belonging to the second battalion of the Fourth Regiment is still at Bingah, superintending the destruction of the fort, and as soon as this duty is completed, I shall order its return to Lucknow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
a Detachment, Baraitch District.

Camp, Rhewa,
1st March 1810.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding the Detachment in Baraitch.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 1st instant, with its inclosures, and I shall be extremely happy to hear that Sheo Sing has returned to his allegiance, and that an arrangement with that Zemindar, satisfactory to him and to her Highness the Begum's Aumil, has been concluded through your mediation.

2. Respecting the Goosseyn of Hunnoomanpore and Bhurtowlie, I have this day addressed a letter to her highness the Begum, and a purwannah to her Aumil, Samin Alee, who is directed to conciliate the Goosseyn and restore him on easy terms to his village. The purwannah to the Aumil is enclosed and left open for your perusal.

3. I have further the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed translation of a letter which I have this day received from his Excellency the Vizier, and a translation of the arzee of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, which is referred to in that letter.

4. If the statement in the latter document be correct, there seems every reason to expect the speedy and successful termination of the services of your battalion in Baraitch, by the seizure and surrender of Roshun Khan, and of all the other rebels and fugitives who have taken refuge on the confines of Nepaul; and, with this view, I suggest the propriety of your affording your assistance to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan in the execution of the plan which he has proposed.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
3d March 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 3d March 1810.)

I transmit, for your information, the enclosed copy of an arzee which I have received from Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, dated the 28th ultimo, together with a copy of the Hindee letter which accompanied it; and I request that you will issue such orders on this subject to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath as may appear to you to be expedient, informing me of the substance of your letter to Colonel MacGrath, that I may issue corresponding orders to the Hukeem.

Letter
from the Vizier.

The Arzee of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan. (Dated the 28th February 1810.)

Colonel MacGrath told me to-day, that the plan proposed by the Resident of Lucknow for the protection of the district of Baraitch was that of stationing five companies at Bulrampore and five companies at Nandparra from the battalion now at Secrora. This arrangement appears to me to be highly proper and expedient, because in whatever direction the rebels may fly, they will be immediately punished with effect, and the minds of the Ryots will be at ease by the presence of the British forces. Colonel MacGrath, however, has further informed me, that he has received orders to pursue Sheo Sing of Bingah, who has excited disturbance in Goonda.

Arzee of
Hukeem Mehdi
Alee Khan.

At present I am concerting measures with an officer of the Government of Nepaul for the seizure of the rebels Roshun and others, who have fled towards the hills of that country, and this officer has promised to carry the measure into effect, in consideration of a reward of two thousand rupees, which I have agreed to pay him. An agreement, under the seal of the Ghoorka, has accordingly been procured to this effect, that on the arrival of the British detachment on the confines of Nepaul, the rebel Roshun, and all the other defaulters from this government, with their followers, shall be seized and delivered over to the Sircar. It appears, also, that Gian Sing and Heera Loll, adherents of Roshun, and Delthemman Zemindar of Peagpoor, and Sheo Sing of Bingah, have all taken refuge in those hills. Under these circumstances, it appears to be advisable that the detachment under the command of Colonel MacGrath, and the force with

Bengal Political
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20 March 1810.

Arzee of
Hukeyn Mehdi
Alee Khan.

me, should immediately march towards the hills; and I have accordingly directed Mohummud Hadi to forward one hundred bullocks laden with grain to Gurheebloor, for the use of the troops, and suggested to Colonel MacGrath the propriety of his marching in that direction. The Colonel tells me, however, that without the orders of the Resident, he cannot march towards any other place than the district of Bingah, for that he has addressed a letter to-day to the Resident on the subject of my representations, and that it is his intention to remain at Bhewa till he receives an answer to his letter. I deem it my duty to submit these circumstances to your Excellency; and as the seizure of the rebel Roshun, through the means of this officer of the Government of Nepaul, is of the first and greatest importance, since it must at once put an end to every disorder in the district, I am hopeful that your Excellency will procure and expedite to Colonel MacGrath the orders of the Resident for his immediate march with the force under his command, including the cavalry, in the direction which I shall point out to him.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 May 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d May 1810.

To the Honourable John Lumsden, Esq., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.
Fort William.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of submitting for your information the enclosed copies of letters which I have recently received from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a detachment in Khyreeghur.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
the Vizier's Camp,
at Fyzabad, 10th April 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
MacGrath.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you with my arrival on the banks of Kunarah River this morning, ten coss east-north-east of Khyreeghur. The rebels under Roshun Khan, finding I was pursuing them so rapidly, were forced to abandon most of their heavy baggage, which fell into my hands this morning, contained on eleven hackeries: the remains of some gun-carriages and tumbrils were likewise found in the road; but, as yet, I have not been able to discover the guns. The length and difficulty of the march this morning prevented me from continuing the pursuit; but I intend marching again to night, when I am in hopes, either to come up with the enemy, or gain so much upon them that a few days will, in all probability, terminate the pursuit.

I have detached a party of his Excellency's cavalry in advance, to hang on the rear of the enemy, and afford me information with respect to their force and the route they are pursuing.

The ground I am now encamped upon was yesterday occupied by the enemy; and from information I have received, it appears that Budjha Sing, with about one hundred followers, has joined Roshun Khan's party.

Mudoo Sing, the brother of Ram Sing of Kyreeghur, has caused all the boats to the northward on the Gogra to be secured; and unless the rebels retreat into the hills, which I think improbable, there is little chance of their escape.

I have, &c.

Camp on the Banks
of the Hunoura,
28th March 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
a Detachment.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the pleasure to inform you, that I succeeded this day in coming up with the rebel force under Roshun Khan, and after a severe but successful attack, completely defeated the enemy, with heavy loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners.

Roshun, who was present during the commencement of the action, fled into the jungles and made good his escape, although closely pursued. His family, two dismounted guns, and the remainder of his baggage, were sent off yesterday, in a north-west direction, towards the Gogra.

After the enemy had commenced their retreat, I pursued them for a considerable distance through the jungles; but from the extreme fatigue my troops had undergone, I found it necessary to give them a temporary refreshment, and I propose marching again in the course of the night, and if possible renewing the attack; but I am apprehensive the terror struck by the effect of the action to-day will render it impracticable to overtake them before they reach the banks of the Gogra, in which direction it would appear they are retreating.

From the exertions of Ram Sing, I am in hopes all the boats to the northward of Khyreeghur have been effectually secured; and a Soubadar of the hills, now in camp, has taken such precautions as will prevent their retreat into the hills.

In this action I have to regret the loss of one man killed and eight wounded. The loss of the enemy was very severe, but as yet I have not been able to ascertain the number correctly.

I have, &c.

Camp, Sungree,
on the Banks of the Jullery,
thirty miles north of Khyreeghur,
30th March 1810.

(Signed) J. MACGRATH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
a Detachment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 May 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
MacGrath.

To the Honourable J. Lumsden, Esq., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.
Fort William.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of submitting, for your information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief of the troops, together with a copy of my despatch to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, which is referred to in that letter.

I have, &c.

His Excellency,
the Vizier's Camp,
Fyzabad, 13th April 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major-General St. Leger, Provincial Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.,
Cawnpore.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter.

2. The object of Colonel MacGrath's expedition to Khyreeghur, in as far as the Vizier's interests were concerned, namely, that of the seizure of the rebellious Zemindar of Nandparra, being superseded by the flight of Roshun Khan towards Rampore, and the state of the district of Khyrabad appearing both to his Excellency the Vizier and to myself, to require the recall of a portion of the British troops to that district, I have on these accounts, as well as from a recollection of the wishes of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, deemed it to be my duty to authorize the immediate return of Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath with his battalion to the cantonment at Sectapore, submitting, however, for your consideration,

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 May 1810.

deration, the propriety of countermanding or confirming the instructions which I have issued to Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath.

I have, &c.

His Excellency,
the Vizier's Camp,
Fyzabad, 13th April 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, commanding a Detachment in Khyreeghur.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated the 28th and 30th ultimo, and to transmit to you, for your information, the enclosed extract from a despatch which I have this day received from the Governor-General's agent at Bareilly, announcing the escape of Roshun Khan across the Gogra and his flight into the district of Rampore.

2. If this intelligence be correct, and there seems no reason to doubt its authenticity, I am not aware of any good purpose which can be answered by your remaining in the district of Khyreeghur, unless the seizure of the Zemindar of that district, as suggested in the letter of Mr. Brooke, or the apprehension of the rebel and marauder Budjha Sing could be accomplished by the force under your command, which, at the present advanced period of the season, is I fear totally impracticable.

3. Under these circumstances, and from a recollection of the sentiments of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief with a reference to your battalion, as conveyed in a despatch from the Adjutant-General of the Army to the commanding officer of the troops in the field, I deem it to be my duty to authorize and direct your return with the corps under your command, to the station of its cantonment at Sectapore, unless you shall receive contrary orders from the Provincial Commander-in-Chief of the Army, to whom a copy of this despatch shall be immediately transmitted by express.

I have, &c.

His Excellency,
the Vizier's Camp,
at Fyzabad, 13th April, 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 May 1810.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 29th May 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Honourable John Lumsden, Esq., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir:

1. I have the honour of submitting for your information the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to the commanding officer of the forces, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in that letter.

2. I am sorry to have occasion to report to you, that the condition of the districts of Sooltanpore, Pertabghur, and Bareilly, which were under the charge of Rajah Hoolass Sing and his brother, both now in confinement at the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier, is such as to give little hope of essential immediate advantage from his Excellency's presence in the country, or from any suggestions of mine at so late a period of the season.

3. A balance of nearly twenty-two lacs of rupees, being more than the amount of the revenue of the three districts in question for a year, is stated to be due by the Aumil, and but a small portion of this balance is supposed to be in the hands of the Zemindars.

4. The realization, therefore, of any considerable part of the arrears of revenue seems to me to be highly improbable; and the principal advantages in my contemplation are those of convincing his Excellency the Vizier of the ruinous

system of the administration of this branch of his Government, and obtaining such accurate information regarding the state of a large portion of his dominions, as may lead to a beneficial arrangement for the ensuing fusly year, and may preclude the necessity of employing, or greatly facilitate the operations of, a British military force in the ensuing cold season.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 May 1810.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
Sooltanpore,
10th May 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-General St. Leger, commanding the Forces, &c. &c. &c.
Cawnpore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting for your information the enclosed copy of a letter, dated the 3d instant, which I addressed to the commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore, together with a copy of a despatch which I have this day received from that officer.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's Camp,
Sooltanpore,
10th May 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major R. Fraser, commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The present state of the district of Dalmow, and the measures now in contemplation for the future management of that district, having induced his Excellency the Vizier to summon the Deputy Aumil of Dalmow, Raee Koossul Sing, to his Excellency's presence in camp, and the recent misconduct of that Aumil giving great reason to believe that he meditates an escape across the Ganges, with the public treasure and the records of the district under his charge, I am requested by his Excellency to desire that you will detach a sufficient force from this station to the neighbourhood of the fortress of Dalmow, for the purpose of preventing the Aumil's escape across the Ganges or otherwise, and, if necessary, of seizing his person, and conducting him in security to camp.

2. A detail of the force which is now acting with Koossul Sing, consisting partly of the Vizier's troops and partly of the Aumil's adherents, will be furnished for your information and guidance. The commander of the Vizier's troops at Dalmow will be instructed to place himself under the orders of the commanding officer of the British detachment, and to obey that officer implicitly in every respect; and a body of one hundred of the Vizier's Candahar horsemen, under the command of an active officer, with instructions similar to the above, will be directed to advance with all expedition to the neighbourhood of Dalmow, and there await the arrival of the British detachment.

3. As the accomplishment of the object in view seems to require secrecy and the utmost possible expedition, you will be pleased to direct the commanding officer of the detachment to proceed by the nearest route to Dalmow, and to make as long marches as possible, without harassing the troops under his command.

4. On his arrival at the place of his destination, he will deliver or forward to Koossul Sing the enclosed dustuck, or mandate, under the seal of his Excellency the Vizier, requiring that Aumil's immediate attendance at Sooltanpore; and after securing the person of the Aumil, if necessary, so as to preclude the possibility of escape, he will be careful to prevent the embezzlement of any part of the treasure or public records of the district, and will escort the latter, with the Aumil, in security, by easy marches, to this place, apprizing me by express of his proceedings in the execution of this duty.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's camp,
At Sooltanpore,
3d May 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 May 1810.

Letter from
Major Fraser.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Herewith I have the honour of transmitting a copy of an official letter received this morning from the officer in command of the detachment from this post on service in the district of Dalmow.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore,
10th May 1810.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Major, commanding at Sooltanpore.

Letter from
Capt. Drummond.

To Major R. Fraser, commanding at Sooltanpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the British Resident at Lucknow, that I arrived here this morning with the detachment under my command, and effected the seizure of the person of Koossul Sing, his Excellency the Vizier's Deputy Aumil in the district of Dalmow, without any difficulty or trouble.

2. In conformity with your instructions, contained in the third paragraph, I delivered to the Aumil the dustuck, or mandate, requiring his attendance at Sooltanpore, and explained to him the necessity of his obedience to that order, which he very readily complied with; and I immediately took the necessary measures for the security of the Vizier's public treasure and records of the district of Dalmow, by going myself in person to the Treasury, where I found no more than three bags, containing thirteen hundred and forty-three Lucknow rupees eight annas, and one bag of pice and cowries, which will be brought, under escort of my detachment, to the Vizier's camp at Sooltanpore, to which place I shall proceed tomorrow morning by easy marches. I am informed that the whole of the treasure, excepting the above sum, had been sent to Hoolass Sing, now at Sultanpore, some time previous to my arrival.

3. You will receive regular information of my progress to Sooltanpore.

I have, &c.

Camp at Dalmow,
7th May 1810.

(Signed) F. DRUMMOND,
Captain, commanding a Detachment.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Your letter of the 10th instant enclosing copy of your communication to Lieutenant-General St. Leger on the subject of the measures you considered it necessary to adopt, in pursuance of the Nabob Vizier's requisition, to secure the person of the Aumil of Dalmow, and reporting your sentiments on the condition of his Excellency's districts which were under charge of Rajah Hoolass Sing and his brother, having been submitted to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, I am directed to convey to you his Lordship's approbation of your proceedings, and his concurrence in the justice of your remarks on the management of the districts referred to in your letter.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
29th May 1810.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Honourable John Lumsden, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

1. I have the honour of reporting to you that I have this day received intelligence from Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, of the surrender to that officer, on the

the 29th ultimo, of Rajah Ram Sing, the rebellious Zemindar of Khyreeghur in the district of Barellie.

2. The general objects of the service on which Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath's detachment was employed being now entirely accomplished, in the most satisfactory manner, with a reference both to the interests of the British Government and to those of his Excellency the Vizier, the troops under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel MacGrath, and the detachments from the stations of Secrota and Pertaubghur, which were employed in Nandparra and Baraitch, have been recalled to their respective cantonments, under circumstances which give reason to hope that they will be permitted to enjoy their repose for a considerable period of time.

I have, &c.

His Excellency's the Vizier's
Camp, Sooltanpore,
12th May 1810.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 May 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Ordered, That a copy of the above letter be sent for information to the Military Department.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 5th June 1810.

To the Honourable John Lumsden, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c. Fort William.

Honourable Sir :

1. I have the honour of submitting for your information the enclosed copy of a letter of this date, which I have addressed to Major Fraser, commanding the troops at Sooltanpore.

2. Since the despatch of my letter of the 10th instant, his Excellency the Vizier, after confining the principal Aumil of the districts of Sooltanpore, Pertaubghur, and Bareille, with three of his relations and deputies, has been occupied in a fruitless attempt to recover the large outstanding balances of revenue in this district from the principal sub-farmers and Zemindars, who were stated to be in balance by the Aumil, and a few of whom, like the Zemindars of the district of Akberpoor, described in my instructions to Major Fraser, have declined to appear in the Presence.

3. The Vizier has been in consequence extremely urgent with me for the immediate employment of a large military force and the aid of a battering train, to reduce those defaulters to submission and enforce their attendance in camp ; but, as the obvious inexpedience, and indeed the impracticability, of affording this aid, during the present inclement season of the year, were expressly declared and acknowledged before our quitting Fyzabad, and on the first suggestion of our visiting these districts, I have considered it to be my indispensable duty to adhere to my original declaration, and to decline making any requisition for the employment of a battering train to the commanding officer of the forces.

4. The disorderly state of the district of Akberpoor had never been announced to me by the Vizier till after our arrival at this place, and the want of proper and timely information, regarding the state of the district in question, formed a strong additional argument in the recent discussion with his Excellency against his demand of a battering train, or the undertaking of extensive military operations at so unfavourable a season of the year.

5. The measure which I have ultimately adopted, with a reference to the district of Akberpoor, has had his Excellency's entire approbation, and will, I trust have the desired effect.

I have, &c.

His Excellency's the Vizier's
Camp, Sooltanpore,
18th May 1810.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 June 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 June 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Fraser, commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore.

Sir :

1. The Zemindars of the villages of Burouna, Oolloopoor, and Fukheerpoor Rewy dependants of Baboo Sudroopjeet Sing, Talookdar of Bedhur, in the district of Akberpoor, having resisted the authority of his Excellency the Vizier, by refusing to obey a summons for their personal attendance at this place and treating the messenger with insolence and contempt, I have been requested by his Excellency to desire that you will adopt the necessary measures for supporting the authority of his Government over the several Zemindars in question, and enforcing their obedience to his summons.

2. From the information which I have hitherto procured, it would appear that the collected force of the several Zemindars, above described, does not exceed the number of three or four hundred match-lockmen at the utmost, and that they do not possess fortresses of any strength, nor strong holds of a nature or description against which the employment of a battering train can be required.

3. But as there are several places of considerable strength reported to be in the possession of Sudroopjeet Sing, Deljeet Sing, and other Zemindars in the district of Akberpoor, who have long been in a state of equivocal submission, if not of resistance to the Vizier's government, and may offer their assistance to the Zemindars of Burouna, Oolloopoor, and Fukheerpoor, it seems on this account to be expedient, as well as desirable in every point of view, that the submission of the persons whom I have mentioned to the just authority of their sovereign be brought about by conciliatory conduct, rather than by military operations, and that the latter, if ultimately indispensable, be undertaken with great prudence and caution, so as to preclude the possibility of a failure at an unfavourable season of the year, when the employment of any reinforcement, and more particularly of heavy ordnance and stores, must be attended with great inconvenience, if not considered as totally impracticable.

4. From a consideration of the limited force which is at present under your command, and of the service recently performed by a portion of your battalion, as well as of the nature of the service which is the subject of the present requisition, I have induced his Excellency the Vizier to offer the assistance, on this occasion, of two hundred chosen men from the body of Candahar horsemen in his Excellency's service, and of two iron-guns, six-pounders, with their full complement of golandauzes, and a proportion of field ammunition.

5. To the above party of his Excellency the Vizier's troops you will be pleased to add such a detachment from your battalion as may appear to you to be requisite for the accomplishment of the object in view, and direct the whole party to proceed to the district of Akberpoor with all convenient expedition, taking care to furnish the commanding officer of the British detachment, on whom of course the general command will devolve, with such particular instructions, in the spirit of the foregoing remarks, as you may deem to be necessary for his guidance.

6. Purwannahs, under the seal of his Excellency the Vizier, in the terms of the enclosed document, have been addressed to all the Zemindars in the district of Akberpoor, and will be entrusted to the commanding officer of the detachment, for the purpose of being delivered or transmitted on his arrival in the district, as may appear to be advisable.

7. Mohummud Koolee Khan, Aumil of Akberpoor, will accompany or precede, and ultimately reside with the detachment, for the purpose of ensuring its supplies and conveying every necessary information; and it will be the duty of the commanding officer of the detachment to support the authority of the Aumil, and to enforce his demands against the Zemindars, after ascertaining the justice of those demands, in every practicable instance, without hazarding the safety of his detachment, or incurring the risk of a failure, by attacking a fortress or place of strength, to the capture of which his force may be inadequate, from the want of a battering train.

8. There is, at present, every reason to expect that the appearance of so respectable a force as that which I have here suggested, with the vicinity of the Vizier's encampment, and a consideration of the terms of the purwannahs with which the commanding officer of the detachment will be charged, aided by firm,
and

and at the same time conciliatory conduct on his part, will induce the refractory Zemindars to return to a due sense of their allegiance, and to obey the mandate of their sovereign for their immediate attendance on his Excellency's Aumil in the district: in which case the object of the prescribed service will be very speedily accomplished, and the detachment will be ordered to return; but otherwise it must remain encamped or cantoned in the district, till effectual measures shall be adopted for the reduction of all the fortresses and punishment of the rebellious Zemindars.

9. In the probable case of the flight of the refractory Zemindars, and the evacuation of some of their fortresses, the Aumil of the district has been enjoined by his Excellency the Vizier to take immediate measures for the demolition of all such fortresses or ghurries as may thus come into his possession; and it will be the particular province of the commanding officer of the British detachment to see that this order be strictly obeyed.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Vizier's camp,
Sooltanpore, 18th May 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ultimo, enclosing a copy of your instructions to the officer commanding the troops at Sooltanpore, regarding the employment of a military force for the support of the authority of his Excellency the Vizier's government in the district of Akburpore, and to inform you that the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council entirely approves of the measures you have suggested to Major Fraser, and concurs with you in opinion regarding the inexpediency, at this late season of the year, of undertaking any military operations requiring the aid of a battering train.

2. His Lordship in Council trusts, that the force you have directed Major Fraser to employ, assisted by the detachment from his Excellency's troops, will be fully equal to accomplish the service pointed out in your instructions to that officer.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
5th June 1810.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 16th August 1810.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government,
Fort William.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy of my instructions, under date the 17th instant, addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur. Instructions of a similar nature have been issued to the commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore.

2. At the same time I deem it proper to transmit to you, for his Lordship in Council's consideration, the enclosed translations of letters which have passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, on the subject of the representations by his Aumils of the disorderly state of their districts, which I have every reason to consider as either false or greatly exaggerated, and for the ultimate investigation of which I should deem it to be highly expedient to depute a respectable Aumeen, as originally suggested by the instructions of Government, conveyed in your despatch of the 18th of April 1808, and proposed by me, on this occasion, for the adoption of his Excellency the Vizier.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 June 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 August 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 August 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will be pleased to observe, in the Vizier's last letter to my address, a modification of the character and objects of the proposed deputation to Pertaubghur, which would render it entirely futile, and from which, therefore, I must deem it to be my duty to withhold my consent, till the result of this reference be made known to me.

4. If it be the wish of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that the whole of the fortresses in the Vizier's dominions be destroyed, with a view to the permanent tranquillity of the country and the easy realization of its revenue (without reference to the conduct of his Excellency's Aumils or Zemindars), there appears to be no necessity for an investigation of the causes of disorder in those districts; and I conceive that the employment of the disposable force which is already stationed at Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, with the aid of a battering train from Elahabad, would answer every purpose of the Vizier's present requisition, in the course of a few months of the ensuing cold season.

5. But if the expediency of the repeated destruction of forts in his Excellency's dominions, which past experience has proved to us that the neglect or venality of his Aumils may soon recall to existence, with perhaps additional strength, independently of the consideration of justice towards the landholders of this country, by whom those fortresses are erected for the purposes of self-defence against the rapine and extortion of the Aumils, be a question of hesitation or doubt, there seems strong ground to insist on the measure of deputing Aumeens on this occasion, in the hope of accomplishing every just object of the Vizier's Government, without engaging in extensive military operations, from the result of which no permanent benefit can be expected under the present system of his administration.

6. At the same time, it is but justice to his Excellency to state, that he has lately appeared to be fully as sensible as I am of the ruinous consequences of the system of farming his revenues in the manner hitherto practised, to persons totally unworthy of trust, and that a considerable portion of his dominions is now under the management of Aumeens, whose instructions have been prepared, at my suggestion, in terms very similar to those which are adopted in the Company's territories; that a proclamation against the construction or repair of fortresses, under a heavy penalty, and in terms suggested by me, has been circulated, to most, if not all, of the Aumils and principal landholders in the country; and that his Excellency has repeatedly recognized and acquiesced in a declaration, which I considered it to be my duty to make to him, that no future requisition for the reduction of a fortress already taken and destroyed, or made over to an Aumil by the exertions of a British force, should, under any circumstances, be complied with, save as a voluntary concession on the part of the British Government, not implied by even the spirit of its engagements.

7. On the other hand, it is proper to remark, that the precarious expectation of any permanent salutary effects from the measures which have been thus recently adopted at my suggestion, does by no means appear to myself to warrant an immediate decision in favour of the Vizier's requisition for the reduction of all the forts in his dominions, or even in the district of Pertaubghur, without an investigation into the state of the country, in the manner which I have proposed; and after receiving the reports of Colonel Palmer, and of the officer commanding at Sooltanpore, it will remain for the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to decide whether or not the measure of deputing an Aumeen to those districts, for the purposes which I have described, shall be urged to his Excellency the Vizier.

Lucknow,
22d July 1810.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed translations of documents which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, containing reports from

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

from his Excellency's Aumil of Pertaubghur of the refractory conduct of two of the principal Zemindars of that district, on which his Excellency has founded a requisition for the aid of the British troops to support the authority of his Aumil, and reduce the fortresses of all the Zemindars in the district.

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16 August 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. As the undertaking of military operations of any nature or extent, at the present season of the year, is highly inexpedient, and as it is desirable, on every occasion, to ascertain the truth and justice of the statements and demands of the Aumils of this Government before proceeding to support their authority by the aid of the British troops, I consider it to be my duty to request that you will use your best endeavours to investigate and ascertain the real grounds of complaint against the Zemindars who are described in these documents, as well as the general state and condition of the district of Pertaubghur, and the character and conduct of the principal Zemindars of that district, for the purpose of enabling me to decide on the expediency of employing a detachment of the British troops in support of the Aumil's authority after the close of the periodical rains.

3. With the view of assisting you in the progress of this investigation, instructions have been issued to the Aumils of Pertaubghur and Behar, in the terms of the accompanying documents, which will probably occasion several requisitions from those Aumils for the aid of the troops under your command.

4. On every occasion of a requisition of this nature in future, as well as with a reference to the Zemindars of the districts of Khroen and Soojakhur, it appears to be proper, in the first instance, that you address a letter, or send a message by an intelligent non-commissioned officer of your corps, to the person complained against by the Aumil, calling on him to desist from his refractory conduct, to acknowledge the authority of the Government, and to discharge the arrears of revenue which may be due, and cautioning him against the consequences of his neglect of your admonition, which must inevitably produce his severe and exemplary punishment, in the case of a British force being employed against him at the requisition of his sovereign, the Vizier.

5. The immediate effect of the measure above suggested on your part, will, in all probability, be the personal attendance of the Zemindar to whom your letter or message is addressed, the attendance of an agent on his part, or his transmission of an arzee in reply, to represent the oppression of the Aumil, to assert the payment of the revenue, or to offer excuses for the delay; and in all those cases you will be pleased to receive the verbal or written representations of the Zemindars, and transmit them for my information, with the result of any further inquiry which you may be enabled to make into the real circumstances of the case by a reference to the Aumil or his agent, or through the channel of your own confidential messengers, to the Zemindars and peasantry of the villages adjacent to the scene of complaint.

6. You will also use your best endeavours, in the case of expected resistance on the part of any Zemindar, to ascertain the strength of his fortress, the number of armed men in his employment, and the probability of his deriving support or assistance from any of the neighbouring Zemindars, reporting from time to time the progress and result of your inquiries, but declining or delaying, on the ground of the present unfavourable season, to comply with any requisitions from the Aumils for the employment of a military force, save in cases of obvious emergency, and under circumstances which afford a certain prospect of the immediate success of the detachment which you may deem it to be proper to employ.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
17th July 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st July 1810.)

I submit for your Excellency's information the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from Major Fraser, commanding the troops at Sooltanpore,

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 August 1810.

Sooltanpore, together with a statement of complaints against some of the Zemindars of that district who reside within a short distance from the cantonments.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have already issued instructions, in general terms, to Major Fraser, for the support of the Aumil's authority, by a compliance with every requisition for the punishment of Zemindars, of whose guilt or disobedience he shall have reason to be satisfied, if the state of the weather and extent of the disposable force at the station admit of the speedy execution of the service required, and I have every reason to expect that those instructions will be attended with the desired effect of preserving the tranquillity of the district, provided the Aumil convey correct information on all occasions of commotion to the commanding officer of the troops; and, therefore, if your Excellency approve of those instructions, I suggest that corresponding orders on the subject of them be issued to the Aumil without delay.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident:

Letter from
Major Fraser.

Extract from a Letter from Major Fraser, commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore, to Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, under date the 28th June 1810.

In respect to the paper of intelligence from Sooltanpore, which was inserted in your official despatch of the 21st instant, and which I had no opportunity of replying to fully in my last, I have only to state that every transaction under the head of revenue, or other public concerns between the Aumils and Zemindars, is to me totally unknown, having never had the least communication with his Excellency's Aumils, Canoongoes, or Chowdries, since my arrival at this station. The Aumil of Sooltanpore, Fuzul Alee Khan, pitched his tents and encamped his troops directly opposite to my quarters, on the north bank of the river Goomdty, for ten days, and never once acquainted me, either by note or by message, of any thing that occurred. Had there been occasion for it, I could have very easily then offered him what assistance he required.

The conduct of all the Zemindars and Talookadars in the vicinity of this station is become very troublesome and highly irregular, and I beg leave to suggest my being vested with authority to seize and send them to the Presence, for the requisite punishment, without which it is most likely they will become still more troublesome. It is reported to me that they actually make game of his Excellency's Aumils, Peons, or people sent to them with messages or requisitions.

I beg leave to send a few complaints against some refractory fellows within a short distance of cantonments: they have occurred within this month and are attested by his Excellency's agent.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from the
Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 6th July 1810.)

I have received your letter of the 1st instant, covering translations of a letter from Major Fraser, and of its several enclosures.

The mode which you have recommended for the punishment of the Zemindars in Sultanpore has my entire approbation; and agreeably to your suggestion, I have ordered the Aumil of Sooltanpore to wait on the commanding officer of the station, inform him of the state of the district, and request his aid in bringing the Zemindars to obedience; or in the case of his not being able, from the urgency of other business, to attend the commanding officer himself,

to

to send a confidential person, or a letter under his own seal, and to state all the circumstances respecting the Zemindars which may come to the Aumil's knowledge.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

I have further directed him to supply every necessary article for the consumption of the troops which may be required by the agent of supplies; and, in the case of the Zemindar's refusing to supply grain or forage for the cattle, to furnish them with his own force if it be adequate, or otherwise to apply to the commanding officer for his assistance. The Aumil is instructed to report to me the result of his conferences with the commanding officer, but not to wait my orders for communicating with that officer on every emergency which may arise.

Orders have also been issued to the Aumils of Behar and Pertaubghur to procure every possible intelligence respecting the movements of Zalim Sing, and to report it, in the first instance, to the commanding officer of the station, and then transmit the intelligence to the Presence; but on no account to delay informing the commanding officer of any occurrence which may require the aid of the British troops, with the view of precluding depredations or suppressing refractory Zemindars.

I transmit for your information a copy of the orders which have been issued.

Translation of orders issued by His Excellency the Vizier to Jemaloo-deen, Aumil of Behar.

Enclosure.

If it be required to punish any of the Zemindars in your district, or if the fugitive Talookadar of Buddree at any time return to Behar, you are directed immediately to wait on the commanding officer of the station, and inform him of all the circumstances of the case, of the force of any Zemindar who may be turbulent, and the strength of any fort or ghurry which it may be necessary to reduce; and in the case of your being unable, from the exigency of other business, to attend the commanding officer yourself, you will send a confidential servant, or a letter under your seal, to his address, for the purpose of explaining all the circumstances which may come to your knowledge, that the commanding officer may be enabled to adopt the necessary measures for reducing the Zemindars to submission with the least practicable delay.

You are further directed to report to the Presence the result of all your conferences with the commanding officer, but not to wait the orders of the Huzzoor for communicating with that officer on any emergency which may occur.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 7th July 1810.)

Your verbal communication has been delivered to me to the following purport: "that from the conduct of Mohummud Kolee Beg and the three other Aumeens, you could not place any confidence in their statements, and that you were apprehensive that after the close of the periodical rains, when a requisition might be made for the assistance of the British troops, some delay would occur on your part in affording the aid required, in consequence of your being unacquainted with the real state of those districts, and that this delay might be displeasing to me,"

Letter
from the Vizier.

From the increasing friendship between us, I have invariably hitherto adopted all your suggestions with a reference to those mehauls, and am disposed to do so in future, being fully convinced that, by your assistance and advice, those districts will be restored to perfect order, and that nothing will ever occur on your part to cause me the smallest displeasure.

Agreeably to your original request, my orders have been issued to the Aumils to collect and transmit all the information in their power; and I have

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hitherto sent, and shall always send to you in future, copies of all akhbars and arzees which I receive.

Letter
from the Vizier.

I now transmit, for your information, a variety of documents which will convey to you all the particulars.

With a reference to your original suggestion regarding the capture and destruction of forts, I entirely concur with you in this opinion, and I trust that it will soon be carried into effect, and that tranquillity and good order will thereby be restored to every district in my dominions.

If you have no reliance on Mohummed Kolee Beg and the other three Aumeens, it seems proper that some respectable person be appointed by me with suitable assistants, and that another person with the requisite assistants be also deputed by you, to ascertain the condition and strength of the several fortresses, the number of armed men with the Zemindars, their several strong holds, and the jungles and other places difficult of access in their possession. The whole expense attending this deputation shall cheerfully be discharged by me; and thus every necessary information being obtained during the present season, the fortresses can easily be destroyed after the breaking up of the rains.

With regard to your ultimate apprehension of the flight, and future depredations of the refractory Zemindars and their abettors, as their reliance on the strength of their forts alone has hitherto puffed them up with vain ideas of resistance, when all their forts shall be destroyed, their ideal greatness will vanish, and the terror of the British arms will induce them to return to their allegiance.

In consequence of the friendship and amity subsisting between us, the punishment of all the rebels in my dominions must rest entirely on you, and to you only can I apply for the adoption of the necessary measures. Who is there, indeed, besides yourself, that can perform this service to my satisfaction, or to whom can I issue my requisitions, save to you? Consider, therefore, before setting out, what can be done now towards the accomplishment of the object, and hereafter, if necessary, let us, according to former agreement, proceed to the spot, and there determine on future measures.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written 18th July 1810.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's two letters, dated the 7th and 16th instant.

The settlement of the districts of Pertaubghur, Dalmow, &c., has always been considered by me as an object of the highest importance; but as the adoption of any measures for this purpose was impracticable, with the degree of information which I had hitherto been enabled to obtain, and it had been agreed on between your Excellency and me that orders should be issued to the Tehsildars of the several meahals in question, directing them to ascertain and report the amount of the collections of the Aumils who have lately been removed, and to realize such balances as the Zemindars might confess to be outstanding, procuring and transmitting at the same time the most accurate information regarding the force of the refractory Zemindars; and as the attainment of this information, though in by no means a satisfactory manner, appeared for a time to be in train, from the tenor of the various documents which your Excellency was in the habit of sending to me during the last month, I had determined to wait the receipt of all the expected documents, and after a mature consideration of the whole, to offer such suggestions to your Excellency for the settlement of the districts in question as circumstances might appear to require.

During

During the last ten or twelve days the transmission of intelligence from those mehauls has been entirely discontinued by your Excellency; and considering my information to be imperfect, I refrained from submitting my opinion till the receipt of your last letter to my address, when I again looked over the papers, and have collected from them the following points :—

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

By the report of the Aumil of Pertaubghur, it appears that there are only three or four Zemindars in that district whom the Aumil considers as refractory. Of those, one, for whom Mohun Loll Oopadheea is security, would appear to be in confinement with the Aumil, another to be of so little consideration that the Tehsildar himself avows the power of punishing him, and only awaits your Excellency's orders to do so. A third is in attendance on the Tehsildar, and is reported to be refractory merely because he claims the deduction of nankar, and credit for his former payments to the displaced Aumil, with some remissions on account of drought, &c., all which seem to be just and reasonable in the extreme.

In the elaka of Sooltanpore, in like manner, there are but a few Zemindars reported to be refractory, and of those the arrears of revenue do not amount to any considerable sum; but their failure to attend the Aumil is certainly a proof of disobedience, if it be true, as reported by that officer. On the whole, however, it is evident that the information which I have hitherto obtained does not suggest the necessity of adopting any extraordinary measures, with a view to the settlement of those districts, nor enable your Excellency or me to decide on what is proper to be done; and this obvious want of information has induced me, in pursuance of your Excellency's late suggestion, to look out for some respectable person in the charcter of an Aumeen upon my part, to accompany another whom your Excellency may be pleased to depute for the purpose of ascertaining the real condition of those districts, and conveying ample reports on them for your Excellency's information and for mine. In the mean time, I have deemed it to be proper, with a view to your Excellency's satisfaction, and in the spirit of your recent orders to the Aumils of Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore, to issue detailed instructions to the commanding officers of the British troops in those districts, for the guidance of their conduct in every case of a requisition for military aid to be made by your Excellency's Aumils during the season of the periodical rains, and from the tenor of those instructions I augur much important information regarding the real state of the country, which will greatly assist my judgment in deciding on what should hereafter be done. The substance of my instructions to Colonel Palmer and Major Fraser is as follows :—

That on every occasion of a requisition for the punishment of a defaulting Zemindar, they in the first instance address a letter, or send a message by an intelligent messenger to the person complained against by the Aumil, calling on him to desist from his refractory conduct, to acknowledge your Excellency's authority, and to discharge the arrears which may be due, and warning him of the inevitable ruin which he must incur by persisting in rebellious practices. That if the Zemindar who is thus accused by the Aumil state any plausible excuse for delay in discharging the revenue, or complain of the Aumil's oppression with apparently just ground, the Zemindar's statement be received and transmitted to me, with as full a detail as may be procurable of all the circumstances of the case. But if the guilt of the Zemindar shall be manifest, and his immediate reduction expedient and practicable, without the hazard of a failure or great inconvenience to the troops at the present unfavourable season, that measures be adopted for that purpose without delay, otherwise the service to be postponed till the close of the rainy season, and the intermediate time to be occupied in obtaining every information to ensure a speedy and successful issue of it after the breaking up of the periodical rains, when the troops must of course be employed.

I shall transmit the foregoing instructions, with translations of some of the documents which I have lately received from your Excellency, by the mail of this evening, and I confidently expect a favourable result from them, in the submission and return to obedience of most of the refractory Zemindars. But if any

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O U D E P A P E R S.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 Aug. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

shall persist in their rebellion, and the employment of a larger force with a battering train shall ultimately appear to be indispensable, that force shall of course, be applied for; and agreeably to my original promise, I shall be ready to accompany your Excellency at a proper season to the spot, and to assist in the settlement of the country.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier, (Received the 21st July 1810.)

I have received your letter of the 18th, in reply to mine of the 7th and 16th instant. You have stated that the transmission of arzees, &c. continued for a time, and during the last ten or twelve days has been discontinued.

Whenever arzees or akhbars have been received, I have invariably sent them, after perusal, to you; and if I receive any hereafter, the same rule shall be observed.

With regard to your remark, that as the information hitherto obtained respecting those districts is obviously insufficient to enable you to decide on what is proper to be done, you are on the look out for some respectable person, in the character of an Aumeen, to accompany the person whom I may depute, &c. &c. I must again refer you to my letter of the 7th, in which I remarked that it seems proper that some respectable person, with suitable assistants, be appointed by me, and that another, on your part, with like assistants, be also deputed to ascertain the condition and strength of the several fortresses, &c. &c. My meaning in those words is no more than that a person be sent to ascertain the points which I have stated; not surely in the character of an Aumeen, which I by no means approve, because I have Aumeens already in those districts.

With regard to your other suggestions (recapitulate the contents), they appear to be perfectly proper, and have my entire approbation, as I only wish to recover the balances of my revenue, which are justly due, and to restore tranquillity in those districts, in such a manner as to prevent the Zemindars from being troublesome at any future period. From one observation, however, in your last letter, I may infer that the forts of those Zemindars who submit and return to obedience are not meant to be destroyed, and this is contrary to your original suggestion. But this discussion is of little importance at present, as after our arrival on the spot, we can determine on the measures to be adopted; and any suggestions which may then be offered by you I shall be sincerely disposed to acquiesce in.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 22d ultimo.
2. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council entirely approves the tenor of the instructions, of which you have transmitted a copy, to the officers commanding at Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore.
3. This measure, also, which you suggested to his Excellency the Vizier, of deputing an Aumeen to ascertain the real state of those districts, appears to his Lordship in Council to have been perfectly proper and judicious, and conformable to the general instructions of the 18th of April 1808, to which you have referred.
4. It is the wish of the Governor-General in Council, that on the receipt of the expected reports from the commanding officers at Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore,
you

you should exercise your discretion with regard to the expediency of urging the adoption of the measure which you have suggested; his Lordship in Council, however, is by no means prepared, as the alternative of that measure, to acquiesce in the perverted object of it proposed by the Vizier.

Bengal Political Consultations, 16 Aug. 1810.

Letter from Secretary to Government.

5. The observations which you have stated on the question of destroying the forts in his Excellency's dominions, are considered by his Lordship in Council to possess much weight, and the only determination on that question which his Lordship in Council is at present disposed to form is, that they should be destroyed in cases in which the possessors have taken advantage of them to resist the just authority of the State, and compelled the employment of our troops to enforce their obedience. The orders which, with a view to provide against the restoration or renewal of fortresses once taken or destroyed, have been promulgated at your suggestion, and your declaration to the Vizier that the British Government would not be under any obligation to comply with a requisition for the aid of its troops in the reduction of a fort restored or renewed after being taken or destroyed, are entirely approved.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
16th August 1810.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 25th September 1810.

Bengal Political Consultations, 25 Sept. 1810.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government, Fort William.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which I have recently received from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, together with a copy of a letter which I have addressed to that officer, and a copy of my letter of this date to the commander of the forces.

Letter from Resident at Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th September 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

The Aumil of his Excellency the Vizier in this province is constantly expressing a desire for the assistance of small bodies of troops to aid in the collection of the revenues, and I beg to be favoured with your specific instructions, whether requisitions of this nature from him are to be complied with, or if I am to wait for the directions of yourself, or the officer commanding in the field, or the division to which the detachment under my command is attached.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
3d September 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Having used my utmost exertions, in the manner pointed out to me in your instructions under date the 17th July last, to ascertain the disposition of the Zemindars of whose conduct complaints had been transmitted to the Vizier by his Excellency's Aumil of Pertaubghur; and Noneyt Roy, the Aumil, having this day renewed, in the most urgent manner, his entreaties for a detachment of British troops to aid in their reduction, I have now the honour to submit to

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer.

Y

you

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Sept. 1810.

you the result of my enquiries, in order that such measures may be adopted as you may think proper to direct.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Palmer.

The intelligence I have received in great part corroborates the accounts given by Noneyt Roy of the refractory conduct of Deenah Sing, who not only withholds, under promises of speedy payment, the arrears of payment due from him, but is at this moment taking steps to possess himself of the rents which will be due from the crops now on the ground, with a view of providing ample means of resistance to the authority of the Vizier's officers. Frequent messages have been sent to him by me, and Sepoys are at this moment with him, to urge him to a prompt discharge of his arrears. I am now on the point of addressing a letter to him, insisting on immediate payment or security being given, and with an assurance that no further delay can be admitted, his answer to which must be considered as containing full proof of his intentions.

Here I beg to observe, that should it eventually become necessary to proceed against him to extremities, a train of battering cannon will be wanted for the reduction of his fort of Soojakhur, which is very strong, and the gateway too inaccessible to be attempted by assault, without exposing the party employed to the hazard of a most serious check, and the consequent loss of many lives.

Bhyroo Bukhsh, Zemindar of Khroen, being in similar circumstances, I have adopted towards him the same line of conduct; and as I understand his fort is by no means strong, I propose to detach against him two companies and a six-pounder, a force perfectly adequate to his reduction, as soon as his final answer shall be received, of which both from him and Deenah Sing I shall furnish you with immediate information.

Most of the Zemindars in this district evince an equal reluctance with these men to discharge their revenue, and I think an example being made of some of them would prove the most probable means of inducing all to a proper mode of behaviour in future. I embrace this opportunity of assuring you that I have not been able to learn any instance of undue exaction or oppressive conduct on the part of the Aumil.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
5th September 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 3d instant, apprizing me of repeated requisitions, on the part of the Aumil of Pertaubghur, for the employment of the troops under your command in aid of his collections of the revenue, and requesting my specific instructions on the subject of those requisitions.

2. The tenor of the fourth and concluding paragraphs of my letter of the 17th of July last to your address, seems to me to have a direct application to the subject of the present reference, which, however, was extremely proper on your part, and is advisable in every instance where there is the smallest occasion of doubt.

3. If you be satisfied of the justice of the demands of revenue which you have been called upon by the Aumil to enforce, and there be no impediment, in a military point of view, to your compliance with the Aumil's requisition, I am not aware of any objection to your detaching such portions of the troops under your command, as may appear to yourself to be sufficient for the accomplishment of the object in view, prohibiting such detachments, of course, from any attempt against a fortress or ghurry till they be provided with a battering train, and every requisite for a regular siege, in obedience to the orders of the Government.

4. As the concurring tenor of your recent reports, and of the Aumil's repeated representations, has served to remove every doubt in my mind of the expedience, and even the necessity of adopting measures of coercion against a

few of the most powerful Zemindars in the districts of Pertaubghur and Bareilly, it is my intention to take an early opportunity of suggesting to the commander of the forces the propriety of his directing a battering train to be detached from Elahabad to your station; and I shall be glad to be favoured with a communication of your sentiments, in detail, regarding the commencement and progress of the military operations which you may deem to be indispensable for the reduction of the principal forts, and general restoration of tranquillity in the two districts in question.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Sept. 1810.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th September 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-General St. Leger.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 20th of July last, I have now the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copies of letters which have more recently passed between me and Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in those letters.

2. On this occasion it is my duty to suggest for your consideration, the propriety of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer's being provided with a battering train, at as early a period as may be practicable, with the view of enabling him to undertake the reduction of Soojakhur, and the other military operations which form the subject of the Vizier's requisition, with a reference to the district of Pertaubghur.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th September 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, enclosing copies of your correspondence relative to certain refractory Zemindars in the district of Pertaubghur, and to inform you that the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, while he laments the necessity of employing the British troops in coercing his Excellency's disobedient subjects, entirely approves your proceedings as reported in your despatch.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
25th September 1810.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS.

The 5th October 1810.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 22d ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which I have received from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, together with copies of the documents which are referred to in those letters.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
17th August 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Oct. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Oct. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Palmer.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I do myself the pleasure to enclose, for your information, three statements of such circumstances as I have been able to procure, respecting the Talookadars, Dewan Jubber Sing, Dooneah Sing, and Byroo Bukhsh ; and as I expect to be furnished with similar documents of others of the Zemindars in the course of a short period, I will also forward them to you, and shall be glad to know if this is the nature of the information you require, and whether it affords you the requisite knowledge of the probable state of the district. I find great difficulty in obtaining any accurate description of the characters and inclinations of the Talookadars and Zemindars, for although the people of the country complain of their oppressions, &c., still they shew extreme aversion to giving any intelligence respecting them to strangers.

I am just informed that two persons have arrived from Jubber Sing, in consequence of the message I sent to him, and that they will wait upon me in the morning. I shall exact from them statements of the cause of his Excellency's revenues being withheld, and at the same time demand the immediate payments of all balances. Byroo Bukhsh is, I learn, desirous of coming in to me, and I have sent to encourage him to this measure, and expect to see him in a day or two.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
10th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Enclosure.

Statement respecting Dewan Jubber Sing, Talookadar of Puttee.

This person seldom comes to his house, but remains generally in the adjacent jungle, where he is attended constantly by five hundred men. They remain there, and make no disturbance ; but when the rent is required of him, he brings together about two thousand men, and endeavours to drive off the Tehsildar and his party. When he does not succeed in repelling the force of the Tehsildar, he exerts himself to the utmost in destroying the country, not regarding even his own talooka : he afterwards disperses most of his men, and retires himself to the house of his father-in-law, at Singramow, in the Honourable Company's territories, and thus eludes every attempt to apprehend him. The amount of his rent annually is 90,000 rupees. He has a strong fort called Singh-ghur, about five coss to the eastward of these cantonments.

Pertaubghur,
9th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

Enclosure.

Statement respecting Dooneah Sing, Talookadar of Soojakhur.

This person is in confinement himself, but his family are in a fortress there, which is considered a place of importance and strength, through having a jungle on the north and east, said to be impassible by troops. On the south is a small river and an extensive jungle. This jungle may, with much exertion, be passed by infantry.

The west side of the fort faces an open country, but this face is much stronger than those protected by the jungle, &c. being furnished with bastions and wall-pieces. There are no cannon in the fort. It is surrounded by a trench of eight or ten cubits deep and nearly of the same breadth. The walls are ten cubits high and proportionably thick.

The eldest son of Dooneah Sing and his Dewan, with two hundred followers, live constantly in the fort, and can at half a day's notice increase them to eight hundred from the villages of Antoo, Omree, Mehometpore, and Gouradand. From the evasive disposition of Dooneah's son, there is no reason to expect that the arrears due by his father to the Sirkar will be forthcoming, while there

is no force at hand to compel him. This family has never paid their rent, while any probability remained of being able to withhold it.

Pertaubghur,
9th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding.

Bengal Political
Consultations.
5 Oct. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Enclosure.

Statement respecting Byroo Bukhsh, Talookadar of Khroen.

This person has lately built a ghurry at the village of Tarrowree, which are both surrounded by an immense jungle, through which the road or footpaths are extremely narrow and rugged. The trench which surrounds the ghurry is from six to eight cubits deep and as much in breadth: the walls are nine cubits high, of mud.

Byroo Bukhsh and two hundred of his adherents remain constantly in the ghurry, and seem to keep it in a good state for defence. He can, in cases of emergency, call in Zalem Sing and Davy Sing to his assistance, from Banny-mow, with two hundred men. He has constantly avoided paying any money to the Sircar since the death of his father, who was killed about three years ago. He does not, however, give any interruption to those who fulfil their agreement to the Sircar.

Pertaubghur,
9th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

To J. Baillie, Esq, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I herewith have the honour to transmit for your inspection the accompanying documents, alluded to in my address of the 10th instant, and also an account, or statement, of sums said to be paid to the Aumil, &c. by Dewan Jubber Sing, with a promise from him of liquidating his balances immediately. I have people now out with the other Talookadars mentioned in your letters of the 17th ultimo, and of the 1st instant, and as soon as I receive their answers will have the pleasure of enclosing them to you.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Statement respecting Hurchund Sing, Rajah of Ramnaghur, Purgunnah Amethce.

Enclosure.

The fortress of Ramnaghur is the usual place of residence of the Rajah and his family, and is represented to be of very considerable strength, being provided with cannon and a garrison of five hundred men, which can in the course of one day be reinforced by four thousand men. The trench, which is seldom dry, is nine cubits deep and twelve wide; the walls are of mud, ten cubits in height and twelve thick. The only regular gate is on the east face: there is a small wicket on the west. The fort is situated in an extensive jungle passable on the east side only, and in which are twenty ghurries, occupied by the tenants and dependants of the Rajah. The gate, which is flanked by cannon, faces the most accessible part of the jungle.

The Rajah seems to manage his finances but indifferently, and his profusion, together with the confidence he places in the strength of his fort, are thought to be the chief causes of the arrears due to the Sircar. He bears, nevertheless, the character of being a peaceable, well disposed person.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Statement respecting Behadur Sing, Rajah of Dewlee, Purgunnah Pertaubghur.

Enclosure.

This person possesses a ghurry at Dewlee, situated in an open jungle, and surrounded by a trench seven cubits deep and eight broad; height of the walls
Z ten

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Oct. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

ten cubits, and the breadth twelve cubits; gate on the east face. A garrison of a hundred men are constantly kept in the ghurry, and it is thought the Rajah procures the assistance of seven hundred men from his own villages if his circumstances require them.

He has hitherto paid his rent with punctuality, and attends whenever he is required by the servants of the Nabob.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur,

Enclosure.

Statement respecting Byresall, Rajah of Purgunnah Rampore.

The Rajah is in possession of Rampore ghurry, which is said to be the most considerable of any fortification of that class in the district.

Depth of the trench seven cubits, breadth seven cubits: the walls are ten cubits high and seven in thickness. The ghurry is well supplied with cannon, swivels, and other fire arms, and garrisoned constantly by five hundred men.

Byresall pays his rent punctually, and has lately been admitted to the presence of the nabob. He seems to be a very popular person, and would, were his affairs to require it, call together most of the men of his purgunnah, perhaps two or three thousand.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Description of the Ghurry of Amree, in the Purgunnah of Pertaubghur, in the possession of Babboo Loll Sah.

Depth of the trench seven cubits, breadth eight cubits; walls ten cubits high and ten broad. The gate is on the north face, with a constant garrison of one hundred and fifty men, and can bring in four hundred more whenever his affairs may require it.

The garrison is surrounded by a jungle, which extends three coss on the north, south, and east sides, and seven coss on the west, which is very difficult of access. Babboo Loll Sah is refractory, and pays no more to the Sircar than he himself thinks proper. Neither arguments nor threats are likely to induce him to discharge his arrears.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Description of the Ghurry of Untoo, Purgunnah Pertaubghur.

The ghurry is in the possession of Babboo Ooday Sing. Depth of the ditch seven cubits, breadth eight cubits; walls ten cubits high and ten cubits in breadth. Has only one gate, which is on the north face. The adherents of this person, who remain constantly in the ghurry, amount to about one hundred and fifty men, and it is thought he can, when his affairs require it, bring in from three to four hundred more.

Babboo Loll Sah is refractory, and never fulfils his agreement with the Sircar, nor will he attend the Nabob's civil officers when required.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Description of the Ghurry of Tujghur, Purgunnah Pertaubghur.

Depth of the trench seven cubits, breadth eight cubits; height of the walls ten cubits, breadth twelve cubits. This ghurry is in the possession of Babbo Suroop

Suroop Sing, who with his family lives in it very peaceably, and duly discharges his rent whenever it becomes payable.

Pertaubghur,
14th August 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Oct. 1810.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 10th November 1810.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
10 Nov. 1810.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 10th ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which I have more recently addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
11th October 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract from a Letter from Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, to Lieutenant Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur, dated the 23d September 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A descriptive list of the several fortresses and ghurries in the districts of Pertaubghur, Sooltanpore, and Barellie, whose possessors have recently resisted the just authority of the State, has been requested from his Excellency the Vizier, and shall be transmitted to you as soon as I obtain it. In the mean time, I shall be happy to receive from you a communication of your own sentiments, regarding the most proper season for the commencement of your active operations, as required by my letter of the 7th instant, to which I again solicit your attention.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In pursuance of the intention conveyed to you by the fourth paragraph of my letter, under date the 23d instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed list of fortresses in the district of Pertaubghur and its dependencies, which I have this day received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. Neither his Excellency, however, nor myself, is disposed to place much reliance on the accuracy of the statement and description which are contained in the accompanying document, and we rely with perfect confidence on the success of your own exertions to procure the most accurate information regarding the number and strength of the fortresses which it may be necessary and proper to reduce, with a view to the future tranquillity of the country; as well as regarding the real characters and conduct of the several Zemindars, who have been reported as in a state of rebellion against the government.

3. I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed extract from a letter which I have this day addressed to Captain Drummond, commanding the troops at Sooltanpore.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
26th September 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
10 Nov. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

List of Forts and Ghurries belonging to Zemindars in the Elaka of Pertaubghur.

In Pertaubghur, eight ghurries.

1st. In the talooka of Soojakhur, a strong ghurry surrounded by a jungle, belonging to Dooneah Sing, Talookadar.

2d. In Deolee, a strong ghurry on the bank of the river Sye. There is a jungle also, and it belongs to Rajah Behadur Sing.

3d. In the talooka of Untoo there is a strong ghurry and a jungle: Oodee Sing is Talookadar.

4th. In the talooka Umree there is a large and strong ghurry surrounded by a jungle, belonging to Doorgapershaud.

5th. Doomeepore, a strong ghurry surrounded by a jungle and nulla, belonging to Omeed Sing, Talookadar of Serayee Oppodeo.

6th. Lollgunge, a strong ghurry situated in a jungle: Rajah Behadur Sing, Talookadar.

7th. The village of Purwar, a small ghurry in a jungle, and on the bank of a river belonging to Bhyroon Bukhsh, the son of Abhiman Sing, Talookadar of Khroen.

8th. In Soesa a small ghurry belonging to Sectul Sing, Talookadar.

In Duleelpore, five ghurries.

1st. In zillah Udhar Gunge, village Mowarkeli: Lall bind Ishuree Bukhsh, the son of Roy Mehiban Sing, is the possessor of it.

2d. A strong ghurry in Dureeapore, belonging to Dergpaul Sing, Talookadar.

3d. A strong ghurry in Dhuroowlee, belonging to Doorgapershaud.

4th. A strong ghurry in Mouza Sooltanpore, occupied by the followers and dependents of Dirgpaul Sing.

5th. One ghurry in Mouza Chundoka, zillah Aurungabad, in which the Zemindar, Galza Sing, resides.

In Purgunnah Puttee, five ghurries.

1st. Roypore, in the elaka of Royzubber Sing Talookadar, a strong fortress.

2d. A strong ghurry in Mudelpore Khass, in the elaka of Ghumbeer Sing, surrounded by a jungle.

3d. In Mouza Etawan, a strong ghurry surrounded by jungle, occupied by Phooloo Roy, a dependant of Zubber Sing.

4th. A ghurry in Suhsua. This ghurry and the preceding one belong to Zubber Sing.

5th. A ghurry in Surputpore, village Mehdea, in the talooka of Busawan Sing.

In Pergunnah Rampore, two ghurries belonging to Lall Byrie Lall, viz.

1st. In Kuhtowla Khass, and

2d. In the village of Etawan, which has been recently constructed by the agent to the Zemindar of Kuhtowla.

In Jammoo, where Ishuree Bukhsh resides, two ghurries.

1st. One ghurry in Jammoo Khass; and the other,

2d, In the village of Ferowleah, in the elaka of Perthepal Sing.

Total, twenty-two ghurries, exclusive of Gurametee.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract from a Letter from Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, to Captain Drummond, commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore, dated the 26th September 1810.

Bengal Political Consultations,
10 Nov. 1810.

I concur entirely with you as to the inexpediency of making further detachments from your corps, except in cases of urgent necessity, until the arrival of the battering train at Pertaubghur, when you must, of course, be prepared to comply with every requisition which may be made to you on the part of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, and to consider yourself and the whole of your disposable force as under the immediate orders of that officer.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A true extract:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident,

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 25th ultimo, a translation of which has been submitted to his Excellency the Vizier, and the enclosed is a translation of his answer, to which your particular attention is desired.

2. I was very sorry to understand, by recent accounts from Barellie, that a sufficient number of hackeries for the transportation of the ammunition and stores had not then been collected at the Gath; but I trust that the arrival ere now of fifty hackeries, which were despatched from this city on the 28th ultimo, will have obviated every impediment to the speedy transportation of the stores.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d October 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier (received the 8th October 1810).

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter of the 30th ultimo, conveying, for my information, the translation of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, and suggesting that an intelligent person be sent to Pertaubghur, to superintend the supply of necessaries for the use of the detachment; as also that a list of the fortresses, in the manner mentioned by Colonel Palmer, be furnished without delay, and desiring a communication of my sentiments on another important question suggested by that officer.

With respect to the early transmission of a list of the several fortresses and ghurries to be reduced, with a statement of the arrears of revenue which are due by the different Zemindars, orders have already been issued to the several Aumils on this subject, and those orders shall now be repeated to them in urgent terms. Orders have also been sent to Nowneith Roy to report in detail the state of the district under his charge to Colonel Palmer, and to exert himself to the utmost of his power in supplying every necessary for the detachment after its march.

In answer to Colonel Palmer's inquiry regarding Zemindars who may, in consequence of the appearance and approach of the large force, deliver themselves up and enter into engagements to liquidate their arrears of revenue, namely, whether the fortresses, or fortified houses of those Zemindars, shall remain unmolested, or be destroyed like those of the other rebellious Zemindars, I desire that you will inform Colonel Palmer, that such Zemindars as may, without opposing resistance, return to their allegiance and obedience, should be assured of the security of their persons and property, and directed to attend on the Aumil, for the purpose of paying their arrears of the present and former years, in which case their villages and houses shall, of course, remain in their possession; but fortresses of every description which may be

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capable of defence, or the possession of which might, in Colonel Palmer's opinion, induce or enable the Zemindars to resist the authority of the Government, on any future occasion, should certainly be levelled to the ground.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my letter of the 26th ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copy and translation of an arzee addressed to the Vizier by his Excellency's Aumil of Sooltanpore, containing a detailed and descriptive statement of the fortresses in that district and its dependencies, which it is his Excellency's wish to have reduced during the ensuing cold season, after the conclusion of the operations in Pertaubghur.

2. The enclosed arzee and statement you will perceive to be totally silent on the highly important question of the balances due by the Zemindars, who are, merely in general terms, pronounced by the Aumil to be refractory, and in arrears of revenue to the State.

3. It will, therefore, be your province to ascertain the truth or inaccuracy of the Aumil's assertion on this subject, before you proceed to extremities against the several Zemindars whom he has accused; and, with this view, I suggest the propriety of your requiring from the commanding officer of Sooltanpore such information as that officer may be enabled to collect on the general subject of this despatch, and of my corresponding instructions to yourself and to Major Fraser, under date the 17th July last.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th October 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee
of the Aumil.

The Arzee of Fuzul Alee Khan, dated the 1st October 1810.

On the 27th ultimo I had the honour to receive your Excellency's shookha, dated the 22d, directing me to transmit to the Presence a detailed account of the jumma for the fusly years 1215, 1216, and 1217, and the amount of sums realized from the whole of the mehaults under my charge, as also a descriptive statement of fortresses and strong holds in the possession of the refractory Zemindars in my Elaka. In reply, I have the honour to represent to your Excellency that the wasil bankee account for the years 1215 and 1216, and the wasil bankee account of the Uml Amanee for the year 1217, and a statement of the several mehaults which are in a state of tranquillity and disorder, are preparing, and shall be transmitted to the Presence with the least practicable delay. The circumstances respecting the dowl for the year 1218, are as follow: The Zemindars of this Elaka being refractory, consider the exposure of their collections, or inspection of their documents by your Excellency's officers, as detracting from their privileges and rights, and oppose it by every means in their power; in consequence of which little can be done for the profit of Government, particularly at this season, when it is advisable to promote, instead of impeding, the cultivation of the rubbee crops, and to adopt measures for the realization of last year's balances, and for the collections of the khureef harvest. The necessary steps for these purposes, as well as the preservation of the present rubbee crops have been already carried into effect; and in the month of Aghun, when your Excellency's forces will be assembled, and all the refractory Zemindars will be punished in an exemplary manner, a detailed plan of the settlement may easily be prepared and transmitted, without neglecting any other object of importance. In the meantime I transmit, for your Excellency's information, a list of all the fortresses in the district, whether strong, or which can easily be reduced.

A State-

A Statement of Fortresses belonging to refractory Zemindars in the Elaka of Soultanpore.

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Arzee
of the Amil.

Baboo Ishury Bukhsh, Talookadar of Goodwar, has in his employ seven or eight hundred matchlockmen, and when the troops of the Government proceed against his fortress, the dependants of Zalim Sing, Talookadar of Dostpore Akburpore, and the followers of Roostum Sing, Talookadar of Bhudian, and the people of Khara Jundour and Manick Muwaree, collect in a body, to the amount of nearly two thousand men, and come to his assistance. The fortresses of Goodwar Khass and Hingown, in the elaka of Hydergunge, are very strong and difficult of access.—The former has to the westward, a jungle, the river Goomtee, a small door, and a very deep ditch; on the northward it has the gateway, as also a babool jungle and tank; to the eastward is an open plain and garden. To the southward it is bounded by a jungle and nulla. A deep ditch surrounds this fortress: the walls are nine cubits high and full of loop-holes. The other fortress, Hingown, is very strong: a deep ditch surrounds it, and there is also a bamboo jungle all round it.

The following eleven fortresses are not strong, and can be easily reduced:

In Sarungpore, three fortresses, viz., Swery, Rajoopoor, Akdullah-Omur-behar.

In Hydergunge, four fortresses, viz., Kaloopore, Khursoomah, Burlia Meerere, Meemoodhur.

One fortress in Nugna, elaka Salheepore.

One ditto in Mouza D'hoondoo, zillah Puleeah.

One ditto in Mouza Bhoosa, zillah Bahore.

One ditto in Deokureeah, elaka Hydergunge.

Roshun Zemaun, the Talookadar of Muniarpore, has continually with him five or six hundred matchlockmen, and when your Excellency's troops proceed against his ghurry, which is in Hyatnuggur, the whole of the people of the elaka collect together, in number about two thousand, and afford him their assistance. He has two strong fortresses, viz., Hyatnuggur and Soobarah. To the eastward of the fortress of Hyatnuggur there are three or four deep rivulets and a jungle. To the southward is the river Goomtee, a babool jungle, nulla, and a small door; to the west there are innumerable nullas and jungles. The gateway faces the north. There is a deep ditch, and a wall twelve cubits high, with loop-holes, all round the fortress.

The seven following ghurries also belong to this Talookadar, and can easily be reduced.

In Sarungpore, four ghurries, viz., Dewkullee, Dhuslawun, Barairam, and Rukownah.

In Hydergurh, three ghurries, viz., Kurrownde Mahmoodpore, Jemowlee, and Buchuneeah.

Roostum Singh, Talookadar of Bhudyan, has in constant employ two hundred men. When the troops of your Excellency proceed against him, Zalim Sing, Talookadar of Dwarka in the elaka of Akberpore, and the people of Goodwar and Rampore Koothra, also Roshun Zemaun, Talookadar of Muniarpore, come to his assistance. The other ghurries in his possession are easy of reduction. The following is a description of Bhudyan Khass. To the eastward it has a bazar, nulla, and jungle; the gateway of the fortress faces the east. On the north is a nulla and jungle, and on the west an extensive jungle with a small door in the wall of the fortress on this side. This ghurry is surrounded by a deep ditch; the walls of it are perforated with loop-holes, and are about seven cubits high. This is a very strong fortress.

Omrao Sing, the Zemindar of Khiradee in the Elaka of Sarungpore is constantly attended by two hundred men. The Zemindars of Sarungpore having joined together, have made this person's fortress a rendezvous. The following is a description of Omrao Sing's fortress. Athin bamboo jungle surrounds it,

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Arzee
of the Aumil.

so as it can be seen beyond the jungle. There is a door to the north, and a smaller opening to the west. The ditch is eleven cubits deep, and the wall on three sides in very good order, but on the fourth side there is no parapet. On the west is a village occupied by tanners, and a garden also is on this side. The east is fit for the construction of a battery. The water in the ditch on the gate side is about four cubits, and much shallower on the other three sides. There are six high bastions on the walls of the fortress.

Nidhan Sing, the Talookadar of Bheerownsa, has with him constantly about three hundred matchlockmen. On the approach of your Excellency's troops, about one thousand men are collected by him from Deira, in the Elaka of Akberpoor, and from Sungram Sing, the Talookadar of Sheoghur. There are a great many tanks and jungles on the east and west sides of it. On the north is a door leading into the jungle, and on the south the river Goomtee runs under the walls of the fortress.

Bheekum Singh, Talookadar of Rampore Kootra, in the elaka of Chanda, has about four hundred men constantly about him. On the approach of your Excellency's troops, Roostum Singh of Bhudyan, Roshun Zeman of Munearpore, Ishurry Bukhsh of Goodwar, and Zalim Sing of Akberpoor, come to his assistance. This ghurry has a jungle to the eastward and southward. There is a bazar and the gateway of the ghurry to the north; to the west a tank and parapet wall all round, and a ditch twelve cubits deep.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th December 1810.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatches dated the 22d of July, 10th of September, and 11th of October last, and with a reference to the pending military operations, and other arrangements in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, I deem it to be my duty to convey to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies and translations of letters which have passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, subsequently to the dates of those despatches.

2. I have further the honour of transmitting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the enclosed copies of letters which have passed between me and Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops in Pertaubghur.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th November 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 15th August 1810.)

I have perused the translation of Colonel Palmer's letter, dated the 10th August, which you sent for my information; and as it is proved by the Colonel's statement, that Dewan Zubber Singh, Talookadar of Puttee, Dooneah Singh, Talookadar of Soojakhur, and Byroon Bukhsh, the Talookdar of Khroen, possess strong fortresses, and are in a state of rebellion against the Government, it is necessary that they be punished without delay, and that their fortresses be levelled to the ground.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 18th August 1810.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter on the subject of a despatch from Colonel Palmer, which I recently transmitted for your information; and I have now the honour of submitting to you a translation of another despatch, which I have more recently received from Colonel Palmer, and from which it appears that some of the other Zemindars in the district of Pertaubghur are dilatory in attending the Aumil and in settling their balances of revenue.

But as it also appears to be probable, from the contents of both those despatches, that the Zemindars who are mentioned by Colonel Palmer, on receiving the Colonel's admonition, may return to their duty and allegiance, and may liquidate the Aumil's demands, it does not, under these circumstances, combined with a consideration of the present unfavourable season, appear to me to be necessary or proper to issue any instructions to Colonel Palmer for the immediate punishment of those Zemindars. At the proper season of the year the necessary measures shall be adopted.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 17th September 1810.)

I transmit, for your information, the enclosed copy of an arzee from Fuzul Alea Beg, Aumil of Sooltanpore, and I desire that, agreeably to the petition of the Aumil, you will direct the commanding officer at Sooltanpore to adopt the necessary measures for punishing the rebels in that quarter, that others may be deterred from exciting disturbances in future. I require an early answer, that instructions may be issued to the Aumil for his attendance on the commanding officer at Sooltanpore.

Letter
from the Vizier.

The Arzee of Fuzul Alea. (Dated the 13th September 1810.)

I have been honoured by the receipt of your Excellency's shookha, directing me to admonish Singram Sing, the Zemindar of Sheogurh.

The orderly Sepoys of the Honourable Company, who were sent to Singram Sing of Sheogurh, and to Omree Sing and the other Zemindars of Sarungpore, for the purpose of causing them to attend the cutchery and preventing their molestation of the cultivators of Delawurpore, in the Elaka of Meranpore and its dependencies, have returned with an unsatisfactory and highly improper answer from Singram Sing, in consequence of which it is intended to send a small detachment to that place, with the view of compelling Singram Sing to abide by the decision of a punchayet.

A balance of eight hundred rupees for last year remains due from Delawurpore, and a similar loss in the present year will be sustained in consequence of the obstinacy of the Zemindars of that Elaka.

The Zemindars of Sarungpore on the night of the 12th instant made an attack on the village of Serboma, in the Elaka of Purtheepore, and took from thence several heads of cattle besides other articles. They have repeatedly committed similar acts of depredation, and the exemplary punishment of one or two of those Zemindars appears to be absolutely necessary to the good order of the district: I therefore hope that your Excellency will be pleased to issue the necessary orders to the commanding officer at Sooltanpore, to detach a company of Sepoys for the punishment of those offenders.

Bekhun Sah, also, the Zemindar of Runpore, in the Elaka of Chunda, and some other Zemindars in that neighbourhood, are preparing to collect from the ryots the amount of the crops of the present year, and will certainly defraud

Arzee
of the Aumil.

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the Sircar, unless a few of them be speedily punished, in which case there is no doubt of the ready realization of the revenues.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 18th September 1810.)

I have received your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, conveying, for my information, a copy of an arzee from Fuzul Alee, the Aumil of Sooltanpore, a translation of which shall this day be transmitted to the commanding officer at Sooltanpore, with instructions to that officer to comply with the requisition of the Aumil for the punishment of the refractory Zemindars, if it be practicable without the aid of a battering train, within the period of ten or twelve days from the date of this letter. But as the arrival of the battering train may be expected in the neighbourhood of Pertaubghur in the course of the period described, and as it will, in that case be necessary that the troops at Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur form a junction to proceed against the fortresses, it appears, on this account, to be highly inexpedient that detachments from Sooltanpore be employed on any service for the present, which can occupy them beyond the period of ten or twelve days.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 18th September 1810.)

I have perused your letter of this date, in answer to my skookha of the 17th instant, and have apprized the Aumil of Sooltanpore of its contents.

I desire that you will suggest some plan for the restoration of order in those districts, and state your opinion regarding the expedience of my going there in person, or deputing Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to settle the affairs of the district.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 20th September 1810.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter, dated the 18th instant, directing me to suggest, &c. (recapitulate the contents).

If your Excellency's object, with a reference to the districts in question, be merely the punishment of the refractory Zemindars and the reduction of their forts, there seems no necessity whatever for your personal presence in the districts, or for your deputation of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan.

The commanding officers of the British troops, who are now acquainted with every circumstance regarding the Zemindars and their forts, are fully competent to that duty.

Again, if it be your Excellency's intention, in the future arrangements for those districts, to revert to the original system of consigning them to farmers, or, in the case of your retaining them amanee, to entrust the assessment of the lands to the Tehsildars who are now in employment, in both the cases which I have supposed, your personal progress through the districts will expose your august person to the fatigues and inconvenience of a journey without any advantage whatever.

But, on the other hand, if your Excellency propose to make a settlement of this portion of your dominions in the manner which is adopted in the Honourable Company's territories, your presence is certainly advisable, and may prove beneficial

beneficial in the highest degree, provided there be no unnecessary and baneful procrastination, like what was experienced during our last excursion, and formed the subject of remonstrance on my part; for, in this case, it is evident that the whole of the cold season will be unprofitably occupied in concluding the settlement of a single zillah, and even that in a most imperfect manner.

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Letter
from Resident
Lucknow.

Regarding Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, I have often observed to your Excellency that he is apparently an active and zealous servant of your Government, and has hitherto regularly paid the revenues of the several districts which he farms; but having already the management of a considerable portion of your dominions, if another portion of equal extent be now consigned to his charge, I am apprehensive that the trust will greatly exceed his capacity, and that both districts may in consequence fall into disorder.

There are, however, a number of important questions, having reference to this subject, which seem to require a personal discussion; and, with this view, I propose waiting on your Excellency on Saturday the 22d instant.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 23d September 1810.)

Letter
from Resident :
Lucknow.

It appears, by a letter from Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, a translation of which, with a copy of the Aumil, Nowneit Raee's, letter to that officer, is enclosed for your Excellency's information, that the necessary supplies for the British troops cannot be provided by Nowneit Raee, and although, in the particular instance of the supply of hackeries, as the order was issued to Jumal-ood Deen, Nowneit Raee must be considered as blameless, yet as it appears by Nowneit Raee's letter to Colonel Palmer, that hackeries are very scarce, it seems probable that Jumal-ood Deen also will fail in collecting a sufficient number, and that the public service will be delayed.

From a consideration of all the circumstances which are stated by Colonel Palmer, and in conformity with the result of our conference yesterday, I now suggest to your Excellency the propriety of deputing Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, as early as possible, to those districts, for the purpose of collecting the necessary supplies for the troops, in the first instance, and for other important purposes, that so the commencement of operations may not be any longer delayed.

The Hukeem, and also the Aumeens, should further be particularly enjoined to prepare and forward to the Presence, as soon as possible, a list of all the forts in the three zillahs, specifying what Zemindars are refractory, and other particulars regarding them, in order that your Excellency and I may be enabled to determine the extent of the military services required, and to furnish the commanding officer with a list of the fortresses to be taken, before the march of the troops from cantonments.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer referred to in the above.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Col
Palmer.

Sir :

Herein I forward, for your information, a copy of a letter addressed to me yesterday by Nowneit Raee, Aumil of Pertaubghur, from which it appears that the orders which his Excellency the Vizier is stated, in your letter to the Commander of the Forces, to have forwarded to him, to furnish the one hundred

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dred and five hackeries required for the conveyance of the stores from Ghootnie ghaut to this station, have not yet reached him.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Notwithstanding the Aumil assures me that he will exert himself to provide the hackeries, not a single one has yet been obtained from him ; and I regret to be obliged to add, that except these assurances, his conduct evinces no desire to render me the assistance which is required of him. I think it, therefore, necessary to request, that you will be so good as to procure the necessary instructions from the Vizier being immediately furnished.

I am given to understand there are few hackeries to be obtained in this district, and have therefore written to head-quarters, demanding the permission of the Commander of the Forces to make application to the magistrate or agent of the Commissariat, should it eventually become necessary to do so, to complete the number required ; but from the dilatory and reluctant proceedings of the Aumil, I am apprehensive of considerable delay, before the detachment under my orders is able to take the field.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
21st September 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 24th September 1810.)

I have received your letter, dated the 23d September, with a translation of a letter from Colonel Palmer, requesting that Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan may be deputed from the Presence to collect supplies for the British troops, &c. &c. (recapitulate the contents).

With respect to what Colonel Palmer has written, that it appears from the Aumil's motions that he is unable to afford him the least assistance ; the facts are, as you have admitted, that no blame can be attached to the Aumil on account of the hackeries, &c. because, even before I had issued any orders on the subject, he seems to have exerted himself for the supply of hackeries, in compliance with the orders of Colonel Palmer ; and with respect to Jumal-ood Deen, who has received the orders, as he is making every possible exertion, he also is blameless.

Agreeably to your request, I had issued most positive orders, on the 22d of this month, to each of the three Aumeens of that zillah, to send a statement of the refractory Zemindars, and of those who pay the revenue, as also a list of the forts of every description and strength.

If you consider my departure towards Pertaubghur advisable, you will give me early notice of the proper period of marching, that I may prepare accordingly for the journey ; and with a reference to this and several other points, I await with anxiety your reply to the memorandum which I gave to you at our conference.

I do not think it necessary or proper to depute Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan merely for the purpose of collecting supplies for the troops.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Dated the 24th September 1810.)

I have received your Excellency's letter of this date. The sooner the hackeries are furnished for the transportation of the ammunition and stores, the sooner will the service be performed and the views of the Sirkar be accomplished : consequently, as the Aumils of Sultanpore, &c. cannot furnish them, it seems advisable that they be sent from Lucknow as soon as possible, that Colonel Palmer may not be kept in suspense.

With

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

With respect to the departure of your Excellency, I formerly stated that when a few of the strongest forts shall have been taken, and the Zemindars shall have returned to their allegiance, your Excellency's presence may be beneficial, but till then can be of little use, and on the contrary may be highly prejudicial, by suspending the military operations; because, from the moment when the troops take the field for the purpose of besieging the forts, the Aumils should be in constant attendance on the commanding officer, to furnish the necessary supplies and to assist in procuring intelligence, whereas immediately on your Excellency's arrival, those Aumils will of course be called away from the important duty described, in order to attend on the Presence.

In my opinion, under existing circumstances, a considerable period must elapse before even the military operations can commence, because the first and indispensable step is the arrival of the statement which Colonel Palmer has required, and which I have so often mentioned to your Excellency, which is not likely to be furnished for some time; besides which, the provision of supplies and assemblage of the troops and battering train at Pertaubghur, or some other central point, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, will necessarily occasion some delay.

Whenever I receive intelligence that the troops are assembled and prepared to commence their operations, instructions shall be sent to Colonel Palmer to commence the attack of the forts: and as I trust that very little delay will occur in the military operations, I shall then propose to your Excellency to commence your journey to Pertaubghur.

With regard to the memorandum which you gave to me, the last article which it contained superseded the necessity of any answer; because your Excellency having in that article expressed your resolution to be guided in every point by my advice, it only remained for me to assure you, as I do now, that I shall submit my sentiments on every branch of the subject, at the proper time and in the proper place, for your consideration.

Your Excellency appears to have totally misunderstood my sentiments with a reference to the deputation of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan. I certainly never proposed to depute Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to any place, or for any purpose which required your Excellency's presence; nor did I ever suggest that your Excellency should, in person, undertake the conclusion of an arrangement which could with propriety be committed to the Hukeem: on the contrary, I suggested to your Excellency that Hukeem Mehdi should be deputed, in the first instance, for the purpose of accompanying the British troops, as he had done with advantage in Nandparra, of furnishing the necessary supplies, of communicating intelligence respecting the Zemindars and their forts to the commanding officer, and of ascertaining the capacity of the lands, with a view to their just assessment, and to facilitate your Excellency's ultimate arrangements for the permanent settlement of the country. And as the Hukeem is an intelligent and active officer, I am still of opinion that he is competent to perform these duties, and that his deputation to the district will be of use.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Dated the 30th September 1810.)

I have the honour of transmitting to your Excellency a translation of a letter which I have just received from Colonel Palmer, from which you will be pleased to perceive that Nowneit Raee, the Aumil, has hitherto given no information on any subject worthy of notice, save the reduction of the forts of Soojakhur and Ghuroorn. Your Excellency must be well aware of the effects of this failure on the part of the Aumil to impede the military operations; and therefore I suggest for your serious consideration, the expedience of deputing Hukeem Mehdi immediately, to perform the several duties which I have already

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

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from Resident at
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so often described, and to remain in attendance on Colonel Palmer, employed in the performance of those duties till your Excellency's arrival in the district, after which he may be permitted to return. With respect to what the Colonel has observed in the conclusion of his letter, regarding his operations after the fall of Soojakhur, it seems to me to be highly worthy of consideration, and I request your Excellency to consider the subject maturely and inform me of your sentiments regarding it. I take this opportunity of repeating my request, that your Excellency will be pleased to instruct the proper officers to furnish without delay a general list of all the forts in the district, and a detailed account of the balances due by the Zemindars, in the manner suggested by Colonel Palmer and by myself on former occasions, that so the Colonel may possess every necessary information before he commence his operations.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, referred to in the above.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Your letter of the 23d instant has just reached me. From your making simple mention that the Vizier had issued orders to his Aumils to supply the hackeries, I concluded the Aumil of Pertaubghur to be meant, having, since my command, communicated with no other.

I hope the Aumil of Dalmow Barellie will quickly be able to procure the number required for the conveyance of the stores, and I have written to him to communicate with me on the subject, which he has not yet done.

The detachment under my command will, as soon as the battering train has arrived at this place, be able to proceed immediately against such forts and ghurries as may be pointed out to me.

I proceed now to notice the fourth paragraphs of your letters to me of the 7th and 23d instant, desiring me to communicate in detail, for your information, my sentiments regarding the commencement and progress of the military operations, which I may deem to be indispensable for the reduction of the principal forts, and general restoration of tranquillity in the two districts of Barellie and Pertaubghur.

My intelligence is so limited, that I am at a loss to afford you the satisfaction you require on the subject of the military operations, to the extent your letter alludes. With the exception of Soojakhur and Khroen, I am unacquainted with any other places that are to be reduced in this district; and the slightest information of any refractory people or strong forts and ghurries has never reached me by the channel of the Aumil. I proposed commencing my operations on the arrival of the battering train, by marching immediately against the former, which I have reason to believe will offer no resistance; and Khroen, I have already stated to you, cannot hold out against a force of two companies and a six-pounder, which I propose detaching against it, as soon as Nowneit Rae, the Aumil, intimates to me that no hope of effecting a settlement remains. At present, he says, he entertains an expectation that Bhyroo Bukhsh will obviate the necessity of attacking, by cancelling the demands against him.

After these places are disposed of, I shall advance to any others it may be deemed proper to reduce.—Together with the plans and situations of the forts and ghurries which you have required from his Excellency the Vizier, I beg to suggest to you the propriety and utility of my being furnished with an accurate statement of the amount to be demanded of each individual Zemindar stated to be refractory; and I beg you will have the goodness to specify in your instructions, whether I am to offer any molestation to those who may, on the appearance of the force under my orders, liquidate the balances due from them, or suffer

suffer them to continue in peaceable possession of their forts, lands, and other effects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lientenant-Colonel,
commanding at Pertaubghur.

Pertaubghur,
25th September 1810.

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From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received 1st October 1810.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter dated 30th September 1810, with a translation of a letter from Colonel Palmer, requesting that Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan be deputed for the purpose of providing supplies, &c., agreeably to the requisition of the commanding officer, and for other purposes described. At the time of reducing Roshun, Zemindar of Nandparra, when Hukeem Mehdi managed the business so well, several circumstances combined to favour the success of his exertions. First, he had a considerable force, and a number of people with him. Secondly, his own district is situated in the vicinity of Nandparra. Thirdly, many of the Zemindars of the districts in the vicinity of Nandparra were by his means attached to the interests of the Government, and acted in conformity with his orders. Lastly, Hukeem Mehdi, to his own loss, purchased articles at a high price, and sold them at a cheap rate to the people of the British camp; and Colonel MacGrath paid so much attention to Hukeem Mehdi, that the Hukeem reported to the Presence, that the friendship of the Colonel alone had enabled him to perform the service; therefore no good purpose can be answered by his going to this zillah. With a reference to your request, that a list of the forts, a descriptive account of the Zemindars, and a statement of the arrears of revenue which are due by them, may be sent to you without delay, the most peremptory orders on this subject have already been sent to the three Aumils of that zillah, and these orders shall now be repeated. Now-neit Raee has further been desired to afford Colonel Palmer every information in his power. In answer to Colonel Palmer's remarks with a reference to such Zemindars as, on the arrival of the British detachment shall, through fear, submit to the Sircar, and pay their arrears of revenue, there can, of course, be no object in molesting them nor destroying their habitations, nor in expelling them from their several estates.

You will be pleased to write to the Colonel to employ conciliatory measures with a reference to those Zemindars who shall peaceably submit to the Sircar and pay their balance of revenue, to induce them to remain in their lands, and to make them appear before the Aumil, who will settle the amount of their balances for the present and past years, in which case their villages and houses should, of course, remain in their possession; but fortresses of every description which may be capable of defence, or the possession of which might, in Colonel Palmer's opinion, induce or enable the Zemindars to resist the authority of the Government, on any future occasion, should certainly be levelled to the ground.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Dated the 8th October 1810.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, under date the 1st October 1810, stating that, at the time of reducing Roshun, &c. (recapitulate the contents).

It must be perfectly obvious to your Excellency, that my sole view in the requests or suggestions which I submit to you, is the promotion of the interests of the Sircar.

As Hukeem Mehdi conducted the business committed to him at Nandparra in an able and satisfactory manner, and as your Excellency in your letter dated 18th

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

18th September last, desired me to suggest what appeared to me to be advisable for the settlement of affairs in Pertaubghur, &c., I did, in fact, no more than adopt one of your Excellency's own proposals, in suggesting the deputation of Hukeem Mehdi; and I am now led to infer from the tenor of your Excellency's last letter, that my suggestion of this measure is the sole cause for your departing from it. I shall leave it to your Excellency to reflect on the effects of this painful but necessary inference in my mind. If in the opening of an important arrangement a measure be suggested by your Excellency, and my subsequent recommendation of that measure induce you to abandon it entirely and to follow some other plan, there is obvious cause to apprehend that, after our arrival in the district, and during the whole course of our proceedings, the same differences of opinion may arise, and your Excellency may act contrary to my suggestions and advice, without a mature consideration of the subject, or without more sufficient reasons than have been stated on the present occasion, in which case my attending your Excellency on your excursion, which, on my part, can have no other object than the promotion of the interests of your Government, will be prejudicial rather than of use, and will tend to create disagreement and unpleasant discussions between us, which it is ever my wish to avoid.

Adverting to these circumstances, I deem it to be a necessary precaution, with the view of establishing a right understanding between us to submit the following proposals for your Excellency's consideration and assent before setting out on the journey, or even commencing the settlement of the districts.

First, That an intelligent and able man, if not Hukeem Mehdi some other person, be immediately appointed by your Excellency, and deputed to provide the necessary supplies for the troops; to make inquiry regarding the fortresses and other strong holds of the Zemindars; to give timely and regular information to the commanding officer; to ascertain the revenue of the districts, and what the talookas are capable of yielding at a fair and moderate valuation. In short, to obtain and furnish to your Excellency every degree of necessary information, with a view to the final settlement of the district.

Secondly, That a proclamation be issued in the districts, agreeable to the accompanying draft.

Thirdly, As those districts have for many years been in the hands of farmers, and the Zemindars and the inhabitants of them at large have been long subjected to unjust exactions, from which circumstances it is difficult, if not impracticable, to ascertain the true amount of arrears of revenue for preceding years, I suggest that the balances of all former years, till the end of the fusly year 1216, be remitted to the Zemindars of the three districts in question, and also of the district of Akberpoor, and that no demands whatever be made on account of the balances of those years.

Fourthly, That a triennial settlement be concluded with all the Zemindars of the districts, which will prevent the necessity of your Excellency's marching every year, or of detaching the British troops to assist the Aumils in their settlements. As this settlement will also involve the specification of a fixed time for the payment of every instalment of the revenue of each year, the outstanding balances will be at all times clearly ascertained, and there will be no trouble, as heretofore, in investigating the justice of the Aumils' demands from the Zemindars. The Zemindars, too, will have confidence in the Government, and will occupy themselves in the cultivation of their lands; the revenue of the Sircar will be increased, and the Ryots will be contented and happy.

Fifthly, As your Excellency's camp remaining long in one district will distress the Ryots, by treading down the corn, by taking wood and forage from the peasantry, &c., and is injurious in many other respects, let a fixed period be appointed for our encampment in each district. Let your Excellency's servants be enjoined, under a penalty, to conclude the settlement with the Zemindars within a given period; and let the Zemindars be also required, under a penalty, to come to a settlement of their lands with your officers within the appointed

appointed time: and with a view to facilitate the carrying these orders into effect, let a scheme of the settlement of each district, under the signature of the Chowdries and Canoongoes and the seal of the Aumeens, be laid before your Excellency before your arrival in that district.

Such are the leading arrangements which it has occurred to me to be necessary to propose to your Excellency, in the hope of your declaring your acquiescence in them before setting out on the march. But as it is evident that, during the progress of the settlement, many subjects of discussion between your Excellency and me will arise, and a difference of opinion will doubtless sometimes occur; with a view to prevent any future misunderstanding between us, I suggest that neither your Excellency nor I shall determine on any measure, far less proceed to its execution, without mutual approbation and consent; and under this arrangement, I am confident that the happiest consequences will result, and that the true interests of your Excellency's Government, as well as the just views of ours, will in every instance be promoted and accomplished.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Draft of a Proclamation to be issued by his Excellency the Vizier.

Proclamation.

Be it known to the Zemindars, Talookadars, &c. &c., in the mehals of Sooltanpore, Pertaubghur, and Manickpore Behar, that whereas, with a view to the security, happiness, and prosperity of all my subjects in those districts, I have now directed a triennial settlement at a moderate assessment to be made, commencing with the fusly year 1218, that so the Zemindars and Ryots being secure from the unjust exactions of Aumils and Moostajurs (farmers), may with confidence cultivate their lands, and labour for the increase of the revenues. And, whereas it is obvious, that under this arrangement there can be no occasion whatever for the protection of forts or strong holds of any description in the possession of the Zemindars, many of whom have been proved to take advantage of the forts in their possession, for the purpose of resisting authority and withholding the revenues of the Sircar, which conduct on their parts has frequently induced other Zemindars to act in a similar manner to the great injury of the Government; therefore, it has now been resolved, that no Zemindar in my dominions shall be permitted to retain a fortress or strong hold of any description in his possession; and that in the same manner as the fortresses, ghurries, and other strong holds in the zillahs of Baraitch and Keewayee have been destroyed and levelled to the ground, the forts in the districts of Pertaubghur, &c., shall also be taken and levelled; but that the Zemindars of the districts in question shall be permitted, without molestation or objection, to retain or construct and inhabit their houses, gardens, and enclosures, whether kutchas or pucks, and of whatever extent or description.

You are accordingly hereby required to surrender and make over to Colonel Palmer, commanding the British troops in Pertaubghur, whatever fortress or ghurrie you may possess, without delay, opposition, or hesitation; and in this case every favour will be shewn to you, your balances of revenue for all preceding years, till the end of the fusly year 1216, will be forgiven, and no demand on account of those years shall be made; but in the case of your disobedience to this order, and the reduction of your fortress by force of arms, no forgiveness nor exemption shall be granted, your forts and habitations shall be destroyed, and yourselves shall be expelled from your Zemindaries.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 12th October 1810.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter of the 8th instant, in answer to my shookha dated the 1st of this month.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

You have stated that your sole object is to accomplish the views of my Government, &c.

My object is exactly the same, *viz.* that the districts of Sooltanpore, &c. should be settled in the manner which was adopted at Nandparra.

You probably recollect, that in my first shookha on this subject, I observed that I should either go in person for the purpose of making a settlement of those districts, or depute Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan for that purpose; and afterwards, in a shookha dated the 18th September, I desired you to state your opinion regarding the expedience of my going there in person, or deputing Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan; but I never stated in any shookha, that Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan should be deputed for the purpose of providing supplies.

You must further probably recollect, that when I first proposed to you to depute the Hukeem to Sooltanpore, you were apprehensive that the district was to be permanently consigned to his charge, and wrote to me in the following words: "That although Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan be an active and " zealous Aumil, yet having already the management of a considerable " portion of my dominions, if another portion of equal extent be now consign- " ed to him, the trust might exceed his capacity, and both districts might fall " into disorder." In answer to this I observed to you, that the Hukeem should be only temporarily employed to conclude the settlement of the districts, and that I had no intention of consigning the district to his permanent charge.

It is obvious, therefore, that I have all along refused my assent to the measure of deputing Hukeem Mehdi for the purpose of providing supplies, and the reasons for this refusal are now fully apparent; consequently your apprehensions of future disagreement and unpleasant discussions between us being founded on the supposition of an existing difference of opinion on this point, which is now proved to be groundless, your apprehensions should cease to exist, or what can I answer to remove them?

To each of your five propositions I shall now reply in their order.

1st. That an intelligent man, well skilled in business, if not Hukeem Mehdi, &c.

I originally suggested to you, with this very view, that two persons, the one appointed by me and the other by yourself, should be deputed to inquire into the condition of the forts and fastnesses, and the number of the forces of the Zemindars, &c., to report on this subject; but this plan was unfortunately dropped: and although I be still desirous of instituting an inquiry into the condition of the forts, &c., which I consider as highly important, yet it seems now to be totally impracticable by any individual, in so short a period of time as remains. How can this be remedied?

But for the purpose of providing supplies, I have appointed Mowlovee Zamen Ali, the brother of Mowlovee Samin Ali, who is Aumil of the Begum's jagier and for the purpose of obtaining and conveying intelligence to the commanding officer, as suggested in your letter, as all the arzees of the Aumils since the commencement of this business, and all the akhbars from the districts have regularly been transmitted to you as they arrive, without the smallest alteration of their contents, and whatever you have desired has been constantly written to the Aumils, you must, of course, be already in possession of all the intelligence up to this date which I have received or could convey to you.

I shall send positive instructions to Mowlovee Zamen Ali to exert himself to the utmost of his power in procuring intelligence for the Colonel, and on no account to be remiss in the performance of this duty. I shall also send instructions to the Aumils to remain in attendance on the commanding officer of the British troops, for the purpose of giving the earliest intelligence of every circumstance that occurs.

With respect to the inquiry which you suggest into the real amount of the revenue and capability of the several Talookas, with a view to their proper assessment, I wrote to you some time ago, in a shookha dated the 29th May last,

last, that the Aumil must be left to decide on all these matters, and that after his decision, if any person proved refractory and did not satisfy the just claims of the Sircar, the commanding officer of the troops should be instructed merely to punish and suppress the refractory. My object is still the same. I never intended to conceal any thing from you, nor have I now that intention. If you wish to ascertain the amount of the revenue, and what the districts are capable of yielding, I shall inform you of it as soon as it can be ascertained by the papers which may be hereafter sent to me.

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from the Vizier.

2d. That a proclamation be issued, in the terms of a draft which you have sent to me; and,

3dly. That all arrears of revenue, till the end of the fusly year 1216, be remitted to the Zemindars of those three districts, as well as also of Akberpore, &c.

In answer to these two propositions, it occurs to me to be proper that Hoolass Singh, Shoo Singh, Adjhoodea Pershaud, and others (the displaced Aumils of Sooltanpore, &c., now in confinement at Lucknow), should accompany the present Aumils of the Sircar to Sooltanpore and other places, for the purpose of being confronted with the Zemindars; and in the result of this inquiry, whatever balances appear to have been due before the end of the fusly year 1215, that those balances only be remitted, but that the balances of the fusly year 1216, as proved by the proper accounts and vouchers, attested by assertions or oaths, agreeably to the persuasion or faith of the parties, and by the sunnuds and other revenue papers, under the signature of the Chowdries, Canoongoes and Putwarries, be still considered as exigible from the Zemindars, and be paid by regular instalments with the revenue of succeeding years, by which means the loss to Government will be diminished.

But if you disapprove of this plan, I consent to issue my proclamation, in the terms of the draft which you have sent; although in the case of my issuing such a proclamation, and granting a remission of arrears till the end of the fusly year 1216, those persons who have already agreed to pay their balances for that year will not fulfil their engagements.

4th. You suggest that a triennial settlement be concluded with all the Zemindars in those districts.

A triennial settlement in those districts, and a specification of fixed periods for demanding the revenue by instalments, are highly expedient and desirable.

5th. You propose that, as the protraction of my stay at any place is improper, &c. (recapitulate this proposition).

It is totally impossible for me to limit the duration of my stay in any district, or to expect that a settlement with the Zemindars will be concluded in any given time; for, on a former occasion, during my stay at Sooltanpore and other places, I issued a proclamation to all the Zemindars in those districts, directing them to appear before me on a certain day, and though a few of the Zemindars attended, a large proportion of them did not obey my proclamation. And regarding the conclusion of the settlement, even after the attendance of the Zemindars, although in some instances where the vouchers are clear and correct, and the assets of the districts ascertained, a decision can speedily be passed; yet in others where the vouchers are defective, and the capacity of the district unknown, the decision will necessarily be protracted; consequently the limitation of my stay in any district seems at present to be totally impracticable; and as my going to those districts at all must necessarily occasion the destruction of the cultivation and the seizure of firewood, bhoossa, &c., by the camp followers, and it is impossible to limit the period of my stay: under these circumstances, if I can accomplish the object of my own journey by the deputation of other persons, without my personal presence, it seems proper and advisable to do so, because my sole object is the permanent settlement of the districts, and the execution of all the measures connected with this object must depend on subordinate officers, whether I be present or not.

Regarding

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Letter
from the Vizier.

Regarding the previous preparation and transmission of a scheme of the settlement, which is mentioned in several of your letters, it is certainly a desirable object, and would greatly facilitate the settlements; but how is such a scheme to be obtained? You have seen the arzee of Fuzul Alee, Aumil of Sooltanpore, &c., dated the 6th instant, a copy of which was sent to you for your perusal, and would not fail to observe in this arzee the impracticability of preparing such a scheme.

You must not, however, consider what I have here written as an excuse for my not limiting the duration of my stay at each place, and not obtaining a scheme of the settlement, as in the light of a dissent from your propositions, or an intention of departing from your advice; because, since I have acquiesced in your proposal for remitting the balances of revenue, by which a great loss must be sustained, of what importance are those minor propositions, that I should refuse my assent to them at your suggestion? You can, therefore, only conclude, with regard to those subordinate measures, that they appear to me to be impossible.

You have stated in the conclusion of your letter, that as it is evident that during the progress of the settlement many subjects of discussion must arise, &c. (recapitulate this observation).

I repeat to you, in answer to this, that I have no other object whatever than to settle those affairs by your advice. If I refuse to discuss the affairs and interests of my Government with you, with whom else can I discuss them, and by whose advice are they to be carried on? Whatever, therefore, may be determined on with your advice and concurrence, and after a full discussion between us, it is impossible that I should depart from it: and since it is obvious that the settlement and arrangement of all the affairs of my Government must depend on your friendship, and on the subsistence of cordiality between us, why then should our harmony be disturbed?

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 15th October 1810.)

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter, dated the 12th instant, in answer to mine of the 8th instant.

As we have recently discussed the subject of this letter at a personal conference, I shall now merely recall to your Excellency's recollection the remarks which I submitted for your consideration at our conference of the 13th.

I commenced with remarking that the principal, if not the only remaining difference of opinion between us, seemed to rest upon your Excellency's misconception of the object which I had in view, in the deputation of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to Pertaubghur.

Your Excellency has hitherto persisted in ascribing my suggestion of the deputation of Hukeem Mehdi to the sole object of providing supplies for the troops, which may perhaps be considered as an object of importance to the British Government alone; whereas this is by no means the case, and, on the contrary, there are many important concerns of your Excellency's Government exclusively, on which the formation of the settlement of those districts must depend, and which the Aumeens have hitherto neglected, that I proposed to be committed to the management of the Hukeem, reserving for your Excellency in person the ultimate assessment of the lands, the conclusion of the triennial settlement and kist bundee, with a due attention to the interests of the landholders, which no subordinate officer of your Government is, in my opinion, likely to afford; and accordingly your Excellency will observe, in almost all my recent letters on this subject, a distinct specification of the objects of Hukeem Mehdi's deputation to those districts, as well as of the ultimate objects of your Excellency's personal tour.

Having

Having disposed of this branch of the subject, I proceeded to reply to some remarks which are stated in the sequel of your Excellency's letter. And first, to your Excellency's remark, "That my apprehensions of future disagreement being founded on the supposition of an existing difference between us which has no real foundation, those apprehensions should necessarily cease."

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The differences and painful discussions which occurred between your Excellency and me during the period of our encampment at Sooltanpore, and regarding our movement from that station, must be still in your Excellency's recollection, and can never be effaced from my mind. To prevent the recurrence of such discussions is the leading object of my anxiety, and for the accomplishment of this object too much precaution cannot possibly be observed. If your Excellency, with this view, had been pleased to signify your acquiescence in all the propositions which I submitted, our future harmony would have been ensured, and the best effects must have resulted.

Your Excellency's answer to my first proposal is conceived in the following terms (recapitulate this part of his letter, "I originally suggested," &c.).

In the deputation which I proposed to your Excellency there were many advantages in view, which your Excellency thought proper to supersede by requiring a limitation of its objects, to the effect of their total perversion, and consequently the plan was laid aside, with suitable remarks by me on the occasion. But if your Excellency will now consent to the adoption of the measure on the principle which I described, and which has since received the approbation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, I am perfectly ready to adopt it, and there cannot be a better plan; whereas your Excellency's proposed deputation of Moolovee Zamin Alee is, in my opinion, totally useless and superfluous, for the reasons stated in your letter, namely, that Nowneit Race and the other Aumeens having now been ordered by your Excellency to be in constant attendance on Colonel Palmer, for the purpose of providing supplies and procuring the necessary information, the deputation of Moolovee Zamin Alee, or of any other person subordinate to the Aumeens, must of course be totally useless; in addition to which, it is evident that Moolovee Zamin Alee has none of those qualifications, with a reference to Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, to which your Excellency, in your letter of the 1st instant, ascribed the success of Hukeem Mehdi, with a reference to the district of Nandparra.

Your Excellency's answer to the second and third of my propositions is conveyed in the following words, (recapitulate his Excellency's words: "In answer to these two propositions, it occurs to me to be proper that Hoolass Singh," &c. &c.).

Can it have escaped your Excellency's penetration, that Hoolass Singh and the other displaced Aumils of Sooltanpore being in confinement for their own balances to the Sircar, will, in the case of their becoming parties to the proposed investigation, most naturally disavow their receipts and collections, and place the full amount of their defalcations to the debit of the several Zemindars, with the view of exculpating themselves; while the Zemindars, on the other hand, and on the very same principle, perceiving the Aumils in confinement, will debit those Aumils with the sums which they themselves have withholden, and consequently the present Aumils of the Sircar will be utterly unable to decide upon those contending assertions, more important business will be delayed, and no benefit can result to the Government. If such be the state of the case, it is surely advisable for your Excellency to take the credit of the remission at once, and to issue the proclamations, as I have suggested, to be sent to the commanding officer of the troops, whom I shall instruct to apply them in the manner best calculated to produce the surrender of the forts and ready submission of the Zemindars, who, in this event alone, are to enjoy the benefits of the proclamation; and as it has not been proposed to require the surrender of the forts of any of those Zemindars with whom your Excellency concluded a settlement at Sooltanpore, and who have already agreed to discharge their arrears of the fusly year 1216, their engagements may still be fulfilled, and any unnecessary loss to the

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Government precluded, while all the remaining Zemindars, in the hope of the remission of their balances, will come forward and surrender their forts.

Your Excellency's remark on the fifth proposition having reference to your personal tour may be answered in a very few words.

As my sole object, in your Excellency's going or deputing other persons, is the general settlement of the country, so as to preclude the future employment of our troops, and to ensure the happiness of your subjects by protecting them from the extortions of your Aumils; if this object can be properly accomplished by your deputation of subordinate officers, I entirely approve of the measure, and those officers shall have every necessary aid for the enforcement of their just demands from the British troops in the district. But as those troops, with the battering train, can only be employed during the favourable season of the year, whether your Excellency visit the districts or depute a subordinate officer, and as the season is passing away, it seems advisable that no time should be lost in coming to a final determination, and that I be apprized of your intention with the least practicable delay.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 17th October 1810.)

I have received your letter, under date the 15th October, in answer to my letter of the 12th. On your submitting for my consideration several proposals, in one of which you described the loss and damage to be occasioned by my encampment in the districts, I wrote to you that if an arrangement could be devised for the adjustment of the affairs of that zillah, so as to preclude the necessity of my marching, it would be preferable in every point of view. But as you have now stated your opinion that the completion of the settlement, that is to say, the triennial assessment of the revenue, with such remissions as may appear to be necessary, the granting of puttahs or deeds of lease to the Zemindars, with a specification of the kist bundee and other matters, cannot be carried into effect in the manner which you are desirous it should be by any of the Aumeens in the zillahs, nor even by Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, and should be deferred until my arrival, I therefore approve of your advice, and shall not send Hukeem Mehdi to Pertaubghur; but, if you recommend it, I will go in person to that zillah. Hukeem Mehdi has requested my permission to return to his own district.

With respect to my giving an entire acquiescence to the five propositions contained in your letter, I have no intention whatever to act in opposition to your opinion, either in the case of my remaining here or of my going to that zillah; and as it is the furthest thing from my wish to have any kind of dispute with you, therefore why should there be any occasion for your desiring my previous acquiescence in your proposals? My sole object is, with the assistance of your advice, and with your approbation, to make such a settlement of the country as may preclude all disorder in future; and if this cannot now be accomplished, it is obvious that the burthen will fall upon you again in the ensuing year.

The reason of my not having assented to some parts of the five propositions is, that I am not convinced of the possibility of carrying them into effect, not that I have refused my consent to them. If you will suggest how they can be carried into effect, it shall be done accordingly.

With regard to what you have suggested, relative to Hoolass Sing and others going with the officers of the Sircar, if you will advert to the subject of my letter, under date the 12th instant, you will observe a satisfactory reply, because the only just mode of ascertaining the balances is by a reference to existing documents, to the assertions and oaths, the religion and faith of the parties, and to the papers of the Chowdries, Canoongoes, and Putwarries; but it is by no means my wish that we should have any dispute on this subject. Proclamations,
agreeable

agreeable to the form which you sent to me, have been prepared and shall be issued. When you shall have determined whether you think it advisable for me to go in person or to send Aumils, be pleased to inform me, that I may act accordingly; because, in your letter dated the 24th September, you observed that there was no occasion then for your saying any thing in answer to my proposals, since it was your intention to give your advice at all times, on every proper occasion, without any reserve: consequently, as I have no other object than the proper settlement of the country, you should now suggest what you think proper, and whatever you may determine shall be carried into immediate effect.

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from the Vizier.

Finally, as you have stated that we are allowing the time to pass away, &c., be pleased to determine without delay and to acquaint me with the result.

My object is, with the assistance of your advice, to settle the country properly and to realize the revenue of the Sircar.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 19th October 1810.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, under date the 17th instant.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

As your Excellency would appear to have now finally determined not to depute Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to the zillah of Pertaubghur, and as you have further been pleased to ascribe this resolution to my advice, which has been uniformly of an opposite nature, since my receipt of your letter dated the 18th of September which conveyed the first suggestion of this deputation, a measure, too, originally suggested by yourself, and subsequently departed from with an earnestness proportioned to that of my recommendation of its expedience and even necessity; adverting to this extraordinary fact, and to my original observation to your Excellency regarding Mohummud Koollee Beg and the three Aumeens of Sooltanpore, Pertaubghur, and Behar, it is now my indispensable duty to state to you, in the clearest and most explicit manner, that as a large detachment of the British troops, with a battering train of artillery, is employed in the district of Pertaubghur, for the purpose of punishing the refractory, at your Excellency's repeated requisition, it seems advisable and even necessary, that you depute, with as little delay as may be possible, an officer of character and respectability, conversant with revenue concerns, to obtain an accurate knowledge of the state of the districts in question, to conciliate and encourage such Zemindars as are submissive and obedient to authority, to direct the operations of the troops to the suppression of those who are refractory, to ascertain the assets of the lands, and to prepare and forward to your Excellency a satisfactory scheme of the settlement; that so, on your Excellency's arrival in the country, which I still deem to be advisable, there may be nothing remaining to impede the final arrangement of the district, which may thus be speedily accomplished: and as I know none of your Excellency's servants of greater ability and zeal than Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, nor indeed any so well qualified as he is for the performance of the duties which I have mentioned, I do therefore most strongly recommend that you depute him without delay to that zillah; and after his arrival in the district, that the preparations for your own march do commence.

Such is the earnest and ultimate advice which, after mature consideration of the subject, I have deemed it to be my duty to offer, with a view to the settlement of those districts: and as I cannot suggest any thing else, which appears to be better calculated to accomplish the object in view, if your Excellency disapprove of this advice, the only alternative which remains is the adoption of your own plan, whatever it may be, relying upon my zealous co-operation, to the utmost of my power, by affording the assistance of the troops in support of your Excellency's measures.

As

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As I am of opinion that a Hindee translation would be useful, if subjoined to the Persian proclamations, I have delayed transmitting them to Colonel Palmer, and return them to your Excellency with this view.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 29^d October 1810.)

I have received your letter dated 19th October, in answer to mine of the 17th.

You have stated, that I would appear to have now finally determined not to depute Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to the zillah of Pertaubghur.

Being unwilling to persist in a disagreement with you on this subject, I directed Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to prepare for his mission to Pertaubghur, agreeably to your wishes ; but the Hukeem has offered so many valid excuses for declining to undertake the duty, that I am extremely embarrassed on the subject, for reasons which will fully appear to you if you peruse his arzee with attention, and I transmit a copy of it with this view.

You observe that as a detachment of the British troops with a battering train of artillery is employed in the district of Pertaubghur, for the purpose of punishing the refractory, at my repeated requisition, it seems advisable, and even necessary, that I depute, with as little delay as may be possible, an officer of character and respectability, conversant with revenue concerns, &c.

I agree entirely with you, that a person of weight and respectability, as well as conversant on revenue matters, should be employed on the duty in question ; but an accurate knowledge of the country, and of the character of the several Zemindars, formed on former experience, seems also to me to be required for the due performance of this duty, and accordingly it is now my intention to depute Mohummud Ashruff to those districts.

This person was formerly the sole and independent Aumil of the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, is perfectly acquainted with the country and with the characters of all the Zemindars ; and as Nowneit Race and the other Aumeens who are actually employed in those districts were formerly for many years subordinate to Mohummud Ashruff in the collection of the revenues of Pertaubghur, &c., they will now cheerfully act under his authority and obey all his directions.

Mohummud Ashruff has been summoned to the Presence, and when he arrives I shall instruct him in detail regarding all the duties which are required from him, and dismiss him in company with Race Diakrishen, my Dewan, and a proper establishment of Mutusuddies and other subordinate officers, with the least practicable delay ; for I agree entirely with you, that no further time should be lost in the adoption of this necessary arrangement.

You have stated your opinion, that a Hindee translation would be of use if subjoined to the Persian proclamations, &c.

It is unusual in my dufter to issue Hindee translations of any documents, otherwise I should readily have complied with your request. No inconvenience can result from the proclamations being limited to the Persian.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee
from the Aumil.

Arzee from Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan.

Your Excellency has been pleased to intrust me with the collection of an annual revenue of sixteen lacs of rupees in the districts of Khyrabad and Mahomdic.

The Zemindars of the purgunnah of Barjur in Khyrabad are known to be particularly refractory and rebellious. The revenue is realized by my making constant

stant circuits of the several districts throughout the year, and by keeping a watchful eye on the Talookadars; and if, on my part, there had been the least negligence or remissness in this respect, the country would have long ago fallen into such confusion, that the restoration of order would be difficult. In addition to the management of the extensive districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdee, whenever there is any disorder in the adjoining districts of Baraitch, Nandparra, Futtypoor, Biswa, Suleek, and others, although these districts are not in my aumildaree, and your Excellency has an Aumil in each of them, you have frequently been pleased to convey your orders to me for the better management of those districts, so that the superintendence of those latter districts, also, may be considered as under my charge. Under these circumstances, if your Excellency think proper to depute me to Pertaubghur, I apprehend, first, that the districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdee, and the other districts which I have mentioned, will soon fall into confusion, and that the revenue of them will not be realized; in proof of which Balek Ram, although nothing has yet happened in his district, has positively asserted to me that the district of Kowana will fall into confusion and the revenue into arrears, unless I go there without delay. Secondly, If I go to Pertaubghur, it will be necessary to remove from the districts under my charge, and to take with me as many of my confidential people as I may require; consequently confusion will arise in the districts from whence they are taken. Thirdly, the whole business of adjusting the affairs of the country under my immediate charge, the settlement of the revenue of that country, the suppression of refractory Zemindars, nay even receiving the account of the Mutu-suddies, Aumils, and subordinate Aumils, entirely depend on myself, as I have no relations nor friends in the district, nor any person in whom I have sufficient confidence to entrust these matters to their management, and consequently my going to Pertaubghur will occasion the total derangement of my affairs.

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Arzee
from the Aum

I have thus reported to your Excellency the actual state of things.

I am your Excellency's servant: you have been graciously pleased to entrust to me the management of a part of the country, and I am ready with my utmost exertions to execute your commands without offering any excuse. The reason of my having adduced arguments against my being employed to make a settlement of the district of Sooltanpore and others, and my own ignorance of those districts, is, that if any thing wrong shall happen in my own districts, or if I shall not be able to effect a settlement in Sooltanpore and the other districts, by reason of my being a stranger and unacquainted with them, blame may not be imputed to me, and that I may not be responsible if my own district should fall into disorder and the kists remain unpaid.

There is no similarity between Nandparra and that of Sooltanpore, because Nandparra is in the vicinity of my district, and the Zemindars in the neighbourhood, such as Soorut Sing, Sheo Pershaud, Balek Ram, and others, afforded me their assistance; and in Sooltanpore I am a perfect stranger, and totally unacquainted with any of the Talookadars and Zemindars of that zillah: and if I am employed there, as soon as the Zemindars of my own district shall become acquainted with my being deputed by your Excellency for the carrying into effect an important arrangement, from the duties of which I cannot be relieved until its final completion, they will undoubtedly make away with the revenue, and it will afterwards be difficult to recover it from them.

It does not seem practicable for me to make a settlement of Sooltanpore and the other districts.

Finally, I await your Excellency's orders, which I shall always be ready to carry into effect to the utmost of my power; but I apprehend that my being deputed would occasion disorder in Khyrabad, Mohumdee, Baraitch, and the other districts, without my being able to accomplish the object in view.

I offer these remarks to your Excellency, that I may avoid blame and preserve my reputation with your Excellency.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 25th October 1810.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter, dated the 22d of this month.

Having already, in the course of our correspondence, submitted to your Excellency, in detail, what appeared to me to be advisable with a view to the permanent settlement of the districts of Sooltanpoore, &c. I have nothing further to offer on that subject; and being totally unacquainted with the merits or qualifications of Mohummud Ashruff, I cannot offer any opinion regarding the propriety or impropriety of deputing him to those districts; but I repeat what I formerly stated in my letter of the 19th instant, namely, that I am perfectly ready to afford the aid of the British troops to any person whom your Excellency may appoint.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Dated 29th Ruzzaun 1225, 29th October 1810.)

I enclose, for your consideration, the Wajeboolarz of Mohummud Ashruff, together with a draft of my reply. Peruse them, and make such alterations in them as you may deem to be proper, after which return them to me that I may give them to Mohummud Ashruff.

Article 1.

Having been appointed by your Excellency to superintend the district of Sooltanpoore, Dherenagur, Barellie, Dalmow, Akberpoor, &c. I will execute the trust which you have reposed in me to the utmost of my ability, and I shall consider it an honour to sacrifice my life in your service. I hope, however, that your Excellency will join with me in this charge some careful experienced person, who, having a knowledge of the state of affairs in those places, may by his advice enable me to accomplish your Excellency's object.

Answer.

The objects in contemplation by your appointment are to ascertain the actual state and condition of those districts, to conciliate and encourage such of the Zemindars and inhabitants as are in obedience to my authority and regularly pay their rents, and with the aid of the British troops, to punish or bring back to obedience the refractory and disaffected; and, lastly, after thoroughly informing yourself of the real value of the lands, and what they are capable of yielding, to prepare and transmit, for my consideration, an improved plan of a settlement. The attainment of these ends, by the speediest and most approved means, will be a source of satisfaction to the Presence. Although there be no necessity for joining any other person with you, yet, with the view of inspiring you with confidence, I will nominate a colleague as you desire.

Article 2.

Should any Zemindars, subjects of your Excellency, fly from your country and take refuge under the Government of the Honourable Company, I trust your Excellency will favour me with letters addressed by the British Resident at your court, to the Judges and Collectors of Elahabad, Juanpore, Goruckpore, and Azimghur, directing those gentlemen to surrender to me all fugitives from your Excellency's country who may seek protection

Answer.

Agreeably to this representation I shall write to the British Resident.

Answer.

tion in the English territory, in order that I may send such persons to your Presence.

Article 3.

I shall, of course, investigate the condition of each Zemindar; and those whom I may find unwilling to pay the lawful demands of the state must be reduced to obedience by the aid of the British troops. Should any Zemindar repair to the commanding officer of the British troops and make representations to him, they ought not to be listened to, because it will be my duty to make known to the commanding officer the real circumstances of the case and the cause which may require coercive measures.

Article 4.

I hope that your Excellency will address letters to Nowneit Rae, Fuzul Ali, and Jeemal-ood-deen, commanding them, at my requisition, to employ all the troops, artillery, horse, and infantry, stationed in the aforesaid districts, in the vigorous execution of my measures for the punishment of the refractory, as well as to furnish me with information of the proceedings of the disaffected Zemindars.

Article 5.

The cavalry in those districts to which your Excellency has nominated me is, in point of numbers, extremely small. I trust that your Excellency will grant me an augmentation of two hundred horse.

Article 6.

Your Excellency has commanded me to destroy the forts, you will therefore, I hope, be pleased to send along with me five hundred Bildars; or if it should be more agreeable to your Excellency, I will myself entertain that number. The levelling of the forts may be performed with dispatch, if your Excellency should allow but a small number of these persons, or very considerable delay will occur in the execution of this work, the country being of vast extent.

Answer.

Let every circumstance relative to the Zemindars be communicated to the commanding officer of the British troops. Let the principle of equity govern the adjustment of their balances; and in this case I am persuaded that the commanding officer of the British force will regulate his conduct by the true state of circumstances which you may submit to him.

Answer.

In compliance with this request the required letter shall be addressed to the Aumils.

Answer.

One hundred horse only will be allowed.

Answer.

You will entertain the number of Bildars which may be adequate to the service required (namely the destruction of the fortresses and ghurries), and orders shall be issued to my son, Nuseer-ud dowlah, for supplying the quantity of gunpowder which you require. As soon as the forts are taken, such parts of the fortifications as may appear to be capable of defence must immediately, and in the presence of the commanding officer of the British troops, with all possible expedition be destroyed and levelled with the ground, as the number of people with you is too few for the purpose of furnishing garrisons or for the complete destruction of the forts, which must therefore be accomplished by degrees.

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from the Vizier.

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Article 7.

I request your permission to entertain fifty Hircarrahs, as well for the purpose of the following fugitive Zemindars, as for conveying letters to my deputies in the districts and to the Zemindars.

Answer.

Entertain them at three rupees a man.

Article 8.

As I shall have occasion to maintain a constant correspondence with the Naibs and the Zemindars, and as your Excellency will require from me a daily report of my proceedings, I hope your Excellency will allow me two Moonshees, and signify the amount of wages which they are to receive: fifty rupees per mensem for both, thirty rupees for the Moonshee employed in writing my arzees to your Excellency, and twenty rupees for the other employed in my correspondence with the Naibs and Zemindars.

Answer.

It is of no moment: let them be entertained; but the letters to the Zemindars must be written by the Aumils. If the Aumils be absent let their Naibs be in attendance, in order that nothing may occur tending to lessen the Aumils or produce resistance to their authority.

Article 9.

Your Excellency's pleasure will determine the allowance which I am to receive, and my expense must be regulated accordingly. If I should appear without a due degree of state, I shall possess no weight whatever. My real circumstances are no secret to your Excellency, who knows that my expenses are circumscribed, and that my retinue has been dismissed.

Answer.

An allowance of five hundred rupees per mensem.

The employment which your Excellency has now conferred upon me requires the appearance of state and expense; but whatever degree of both your Excellency may determine to be proper, I shall conform to with submission.

Answer.

It shall be included in the accounts.

Allowance for paper and ink.

Answer.

A Vakeel is unnecessary: Sooruj Bhan will be the channel for the transmission.

Salary for a Vakeel.

Answer.

Granted.

Four Mutusuddies will remain with me, for the purpose of arranging all the papers and accounts which shall be transmitted to me from the districts: their wages to be settled by your Excellency.

To 50

To 30

—
Total, Sicca Rupees... 80

Article

Answer.

Article 10.

What are your Excellency's orders relative to the demand which is sometimes made on the part of the English for bread, butter, and eggs?

Answer.

To be supplied at a reasonable rate, and according to the perick of the country.

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from the Vizier.

Article 11.

If the commanding officer of the British troops should pay me a visit, I beg your Excellency will instruct me as to the nature of the reception requisite on that occasion.

Answer.

Whenever there is a necessity for a meeting, you will yourself wait on the commanding officer of the British troops.

Article 12.

Four persons are necessary to be entertained for the purpose of furnishing the supplies, and all the usual articles required by the British troops. Their wages ought to be liberal, and if placed immediately under me, I can direct and control their actions.

Answer.

Do as you propose.

Article 13.

The whole of the leading measures shall be arranged by myself, and the Aumils shall then be directed to execute them. I shall require the attendance of the Aumils, and conduct my proceedings in concert with them. No steps shall be taken, on any account, which may have a tendency to lessen the authority of the Aumils, and all your Excellency's orders shall be punctually obeyed.

Answer.

Granted.

Article 14.

Such of the Talookadars and Zemin-dars as after investigation shall be found unable to execute their agreement with the Sircar shall be required to surrender their lands, and the collections which they yield to be made by my own people. For the purpose of acquiring a due knowledge of the means of those persons, fifty Merdehs, at four rupees a month each, will be requisite, and also twenty-five Aumeens at five rupees a man, whom I therefore hope you will permit me to entertain: a descriptive roll of them shall be lodged in the Bukhshee-gurrie duftur.

Answer.

Let it be, when necessity justifies the measure; but matters must be conducted in conjunction with the Aumils.

Article 15.

Your Excellency, I trust, will furnish me with camp equipage, &c., as follows:

Answer.

Orders for a compliance with this request have been issued to my son, Nuseer-ud Dowlah, who has already most probably obeyed them.

- 2 Chouturkehs,
- 1 Bechoba,
- 4 Koondulas,
- 8 Pauls,
- 2 Numgeerah, Kunath Saeer,
- 4 Furrashes,
- 5 Chukurahs,

Horses.

2 G

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Horses, &c.

3 Horses,
2 Elephants with Howdah.

Having no riding elephants of my own, I hope your Excellency will allow me two.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. With the view of aiding the effect of your requisitions to the several Zemindars and other rebellious subjects of the Vizier's Government in the districts of Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore, for the peaceable surrender of their forts, his Excellency has been pleased, at my suggestion, to issue a number of proclamations in the terms of the accompanying document, and has desired me to transmit to you the enclosed ten original proclamations in the Persian language, under his seal, for the purpose of being conveyed to such of the refractory Zemindars as you may have occasion to proceed against, with the detachment under your command, at the requisition of his Excellency's Aumils.

2. Both his Excellency and myself are of opinion, that the only security which can be had for the future allegiance or fidelity of the principal Zemindars in those districts is the entire demolition of their forts; and his Excellency has accordingly determined, in compliance with my suggestion, to direct the entire destruction of every fortress and ghurry which may be surrendered or reduced on this occasion, by the operations of the troops under your command.

3. The tenor of his Excellency's proclamations, as announcing the remission of considerable balances of revenue, as well as other eminent advantages in the triennial settlement of their lands, to such of the landholders of those districts as may immediately return to their allegiance and deliver up their fortresses to you, seems in my opinion calculated to circumscribe the extent of your military operations, and to accelerate the accomplishment of their object.

4. I shall be extremely happy to learn that this effect has been produced by the proclamations, under your judicious application of them to the purposes for which they are intended, and

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th October 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I find myself under the necessity of referring for your further instructions, in regard to the manner in which your orders to destroy such places as I may deem necessary to prevent future trouble is to be executed, as I am assured by the Aumil that he has not been authorized by his Excellency the Vizier to incur any expense, or provide any powder or Bildars for the purpose.

I take this opportunity of acquainting you of my having encamped at this place yesterday, to await the result of the Aumil's negotiation with three or four of the Zemindars, and which I expect will end without the necessity of adopting coercive measures against them, in the complete adjustment of their accounts with him.

The forts, or ghurries, belonging to these people are represented to be of too little strength to render it requisite to destroy them; and, accordingly, if they consent to pay the demands upon them, I shall proceed without delay against other places; but as information on the subject of this reference is necessary to enable me to carry on my operations, my force being detained in the neighbourhood

bourhood of Soojakhur and Amethee, if I should get possession of them without resistance, I request the favour of an early reply to this letter.

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In the course of to-morrow I hope to be able to afford you satisfactory accounts of my proceedings with the Zemindars in the vicinity of this encampment.

I have, &c.

Camp near Chuterpore,
26th October 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the pleasure to report to you that the fort of Soojakhur has been surrendered to, and is now in possession of, the Aumil's people.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

It having been communicated to me, since the despatch of my letter of yesterday's date to your address, that the forts of Untoo and Oomree had evinced a disposition to oppose my detachment, notwithstanding the Zemindars, Udee Sing and Doorga Persaud, had promised an entire submission, I marched against them this morning, when the former place was surrendered to me without opposition, and the latter was evacuated upon my approach. The garrison of Untoo I permitted to retire unmolested, and that of Oomree effected its escape into the jungle.

The strength of these places has been grossly misrepresented ; as they are advantageously situated and capable of considerable resistance, I shall, therefore, remain here to-morrow and destroy them. The following morning I shall march against Amethee.

I have, &c.

Camp, Oomree,
Oude, 27th October 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated the 26th and 27th instant, the substance of both of which shall be communicated to his Excellency the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. In answer to the reference which is conveyed by the first paragraph of your letter dated the 26th instant, and to which you have requested an immediate reply, I have the honour of subjoining, for your information and guidance, a translation of the Vizier's answer to the 6th article of a paper of requests submitted to his Excellency by Mohummud Ashruf, who has recently been nominated to superintend the settlement of the districts of Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore.

" You will entertain the number of Bildars which may be adequate to the service required (namely, the destruction of the fortresses and ghurries), and orders shall be issued to my son, Nuseer-ud Dowlah, for supplying the quantity of gunpowder which you require. As soon as the forts are taken, such parts of the fortification as may appear to be capable of defence must immediately, and in the presence of the commanding officer of the British troops, with all possible expedition be destroyed and levelled with the ground, as the number of people with you is too few for the purpose of furnishing garrisons, or for the complete destruction of the forts, which must, therefore, be accomplished by degrees."

3. I congratulate you on the success of your operations, as reported in your letter of the 27th instant, and

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
31st October 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

*Extract from a Private Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer to Captain Baillie,
Resident at Lucknow. Dated the 30th October 1810.*

Unless you can prevail on His Excellency to send peremptory instructions to Nowneit Raee and all the other Aumils I shall have occasion to call upon hereafter, to furnish large quantities of gunpowder and great lots of Bildars, whenever required, to assist in knocking down forts, ghurries, &c., as we get possession of them, our work will be much delayed and almost endless, and the detachment in all probability remain in the field two years and upwards. I am extremely anxious to get every thing settled and to see the country in peace. I have no idea of any violent opposition; and I am convinced, as far as I can judge of the inclinations and dispositions of the few Talookadars that I have seen, that the people in general are by no means disaffected to his Excellency's Government, and that they only require to be dealt honestly with. The proclamation which I have just received will, I am confident, have a most happy effect; and in my opinion, if the Aumil is fair in his settlement, no further disturbance will occur in the country. However, this is no business of mine, and, of course, I shall never attempt to interfere.

Owing to the want of powder and Bildars, having only fifty of the latter with the train, we have not been able to destroy completely the forts of Untoo and Oomree as yet. The Aumil sent last night thirteen country maunds of powder, about seven or eight of our maunds, and we are now hard at work constructing mines, and either to-night or some time to-morrow, hope to set fire to them.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

*Extract from a Private Letter from Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, to
Colonel Palmer. Dated the 4th November 1810.*

You have already observed from my official despatches, that I am by no means inattentive to your proceedings, nor unmindful of the necessity of supplying you with the means of destroying the forts which may come into your possession, whether by the voluntary surrender of the holders or by the successful operations of your arms.

You seem to me to be conducting the business in an able and a judicious manner; and I augur from what is already before me, your return with credit to your cantonment before the end of the cold weather.

Mohummud Ashruf, the newly appointed Aumil, who is highly talked of to me, will be with you in a few days, and you shall have a copy of the instructions which have been issued to him, at my suggestion, by his sovereign. If he fail in the performance of his duty, we shall ourselves be with you by and bye; but I trust that our movement will be superseded by the zealous conduct of the Aumil, and by your judicious and active support of the measures which he is instructed to adopt.

Our last akhbar from your camp mentions the flight of a number of Zemindars; and this is an unpleasant circumstance, because it must protract the settlement of the country.

Conciliatory measures on your part, with a reference to the Zemindars, and remonstrances against the Aumil's demands whenever you suspect them to be unjust, will probably put a stop to the emigration, and my circular letter to the surrounding magistrates, a copy of which is inclosed, will also have a good effect.

I shall be glad to hear from you privately, as well as officially, upon every necessary occasion, and you may rely on my ready attention to every suggestion which you convey.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur Camp.

Sir :

In pursuance of the intention which was conveyed to you by my letter of the 2d instant, I have now the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed translations of a letter, and other documents, which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, containing his Excellency's instructions to Mohummud Ashruf, the newly appointed superintendant of the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur.

I have further the honour of transmitting to you a copy of a circular letter which I have recently addressed to the Magistrates of Juanpore, Elahabad, and Goruckpore.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th November 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To R. O. Wynne, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Zillah Juanpore.

Sir :

1. I request the favour of your attention to the enclosed copy of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. A considerable military force, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, being employed, at the Vizier's requisition, in the capture and demolition of all the fortresses and ghurries in the districts of Sooltanpore, Pertaubghur, and Dalmow Barellie, and there being great reason to apprehend that the success of Colonel Palmer's operations will occasion the flight of a number of refractory landholders from those districts into the adjacent districts of the Honourable Company's dominions, I consider it to be my duty, in compliance with the desire of his Excellency the Vizier, to suggest the propriety of your adopting every measure in your power, for the immediate seizure and surrender of such of the defaulters from this Government as may seek refuge within the jurisdiction of your court.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d November 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A circular, of the same tenor and date as the above, addressed
To H. Dumbleton, Esq., acting Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad,
and

To D. Scott, Esq., acting Judge and Magistrate of Goruckpore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Being under the necessity of waiting in the neighbourhood of Untoo and Oomree till they were destroyed, which was not completed till the evening of the 1st instant, I could only move yesterday morning, when I marched to this place.

I was met at some distance from hence by the Rajah Hurchund Sing's Vakeels, who proposed to surrender the fort to me, and of which I was accordingly put in immediate possession by his son, who met me at the gate ; and I shall proceed without delay to destroy such parts of the fortifications (which are, however, in a most ruinous condition) as may render it incapable of future resistance.

I think it my duty to make to you, for the information of the Vizier, a favourable report of the disposition of the Rajah, who has intimated to me, in the strongest terms, his entire submission to his Excellency's will and pleasure.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1810.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

It is not in my power to render you an immediate account of the operations I am now to undertake, as I am led to believe I shall be able to get, by means of detachments from the force under my command, possession of several forts and ghurries in this vicinity, which will be a preferable mode of proceeding to that of drawing the heavy guns and train over the bad roads, where they will travel with much difficulty and considerable hazard of damage. I shall be careful to inform you of the reduction of forts by such parties; and by the means provided by his Excellency's order, as stated to me in your letter of the 31st ultimo, I hope to be able to destroy them with much more ease and expedition than I have hitherto.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Amethee,
3d November 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding Detachment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Dec. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th December 1810.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 7th ultimo, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies and translations of letters on the same subject, which have more recently passed between his Excellency the Vizier and myself, with copies of letters which I have received from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the detachment in Pertaubghur, and from Major-General Fuller, commanding the troops in the field.

2. I am concerned to be under the necessity of reporting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, that the negligence and improper conduct of the officers of this Government employed in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, with the repeated refusal of his Excellency the Vizier to comply with my suggestion of his deputing to those districts the only efficient Aumil under his Government, or proceeding to the districts himself with a declared resolution to abide by the proposition which I submitted to him, seem to me to preclude the possibility of effecting any beneficial arrangement, in either of the districts in question, during the present fusly year.

3. Since my receipt of the last of the documents which are transmitted by this despatch, I have had several conferences with his Excellency on the general subject of those documents, and the state of the districts in question; and I have strenuously laboured to convince him of the ruinous consequences of the misconduct of his officers in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, as well as of the measures which he has himself more recently adopted, with a reference to the large portion of his dominions which was formerly farmed by Almass.

4. The districts which were occupied by that Aumil, yielding an annual revenue of about thirty lacs of rupees, had been transferred, immediately on his death, in opposition to my wishes and suggestions, to the eunuch, Ruhmut Alee Khan, Almass's nominal brother, whose failure in the payment of the revenue occasioned his removal and disgrace in the course of a few months, and the subsequent transfer of the districts, on similar terms, to a person named Mirza Jan, the adoptive son of Almass, who has also necessarily failed to fulfil his engagements to the Government, and is now under personal restraint for balances, which can never be liquidated, and the demand of a large portion of which is, in my opinion, unjust and oppressive.

5. On the occasion of the death of Almass Alee Khan, and on the two subsequent occasions of the transfer of the districts which he farmed to his nominal brother and son at the exorbitant rate of his engagements, I suggested in strong terms to the Vizier the impropriety of his consigning so large a portion

portion of his dominions to any individual Aumil, more particularly to the dependants of Almass, and the expediency of his appointing a number of trustworthy persons as Ameens, to investigate and report upon the real state of the districts and the condition of the landholders and peasantry, with a view to a beneficial arrangement for the future management of the country.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Dec. 1810.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

6. A compliance with my suggestions on those occasions was evaded by his Excellency the Vizier, upon grounds and under circumstances which precluded my persistence in urging the point; but the consequences which I then predicted have all of them since been acknowledged, and have probably had their influence in producing a partial change of his Excellency's system with regard to this portion of his dominions.

7. The territory which was farmed by Almass, Ruhmut Alee Khan, and Mirza Jan, in succession, has now been parcelled out, I understand, to a number of petty farmers, without any reduction of the terms, and under circumstances which preclude the possibility of the due realization of the revenue, without the gradual devastation of the lands, and the ruin of the landholders and peasantry.

8. I have again submitted to the Vizier the ruinous consequences of those measures, and have predicted the speedy removal and imprisonment of a majority, if not all, of the newly appointed Aumils, whose personal wealth only, and by no means their capacity for the trust, has induced their nomination to those offices.

9. I have further submitted to his Excellency, that individual wealth among his subjects, and the sources from which it was derived, are now nearly at an end, and must very shortly be exhausted: and that, ultimately, when the soil of his dominions and industrious cultivators of that soil must form the only sources of his revenue, he will find the first to be totally unproductive, and will search for the latter in vain.

10. I have even thought it my duty to hint to him, that the measures of rigour which he has practised and now meditates against the dependants of Almass Alee Khan, who unwarily permitted themselves to be entangled in the net of official responsibility which his Excellency caused to be spread for them, are in direct opposition to the principles of justice and benevolence which I endeavoured to impress on his mind, by the commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, immediately after the death of Almass; and that, although a considerable portion of the balances of revenue, which his Excellency claims from those unfortunate and misguided Aumils, may be recovered by their imprisonment, and by the confiscation of their personal property derived from their late protector, his faithful servant Almass, yet that his Excellency's voluntary remission of a portion of those balances, his submitting to a loss which has been occasioned by the erroneous system of his Government, and the immediate correction of that system, as so frequently suggested by me, would be far more conducive to his reputation and to the future increase of his revenue, than the measures which he has recently adopted, and those which I have reason to consider as in his contemplation, with a reference to the dependants of Almass, and to the districts which were occupied by that Aumil.

11. I am sorry to have occasion to add, that my remarks and suggestions on this subject, although repeatedly urged to his Excellency with as much earnestness as considerations of personal respect would admit, have by no means had the desired effect, nor have they uniformly of late been received in so gracious a manner as formerly. His Excellency's leading passion of avarice and all its concomitant evils have, as is natural, increased with his age; and the reluctance and impatience with which he ever listened to remonstrance against the inordinate gratification of this passion, or against any other unjust measure of his Government, have lately arisen to a degree of peevishness and irritation, which renders the efficient conduct of the duties of my station at his court, combined with the observances and offices of personal respect and conciliation, a great deal more difficult than before.

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

12. As an example of this latter remark, it may not be out of place to report to you, for the Right Honourable the Governor-General's information, that his Excellency having recently evinced a design to take advantage of the change of his system with regard to the districts of Almass, by whom and his successors in office the jagier of Tufuzzool Hooseyn Khan had been farmed, for the purpose of converting this jagier into an annual pension in money, to the manifest loss of the Jagierdar, I considered it to be my duty to remonstrate against the execution of this design in the most urgent terms which I could use, and to state to his Excellency the impropriety of his adopting any new measures, with a reference to the management of this jagier, without the previous sanction of the British Government, at whose instance it was originally granted to Tufuzzool Hooseyn Khan, and subsequently confirmed in the possession of his only son and representative.

13. His Excellency did not hesitate to avow and support his resolution of superseding Tufuzzool Hooseyn Khan's authority in the jagier, by conferring the future management of it on an Aumil of his own selection, who should pay a certain yearly sum to the Jagierdar; and remarked to me, with apparent irritation and displeasure, that Tufuzzool Hooseyn Khan would never have presumed to object to the arrangement in question, save for the unnecessary and unprecedented support which I had afforded to this person and to others in a similar predicament.

14. I replied to this unjust and indelicate observation, that the support which I had on one remarkable occasion afforded to Tufuzzool Hooseyn Khan, had been authorized and entirely approved by the Government which I have the honour of representing, and had manifestly proceeded on principles of the strictest justice to the person accused, as well as on sentiments of the purest regard for his Excellency's personal safety, and for the honour and reputation of his Government; and that I was sorry to have occasion to remark, that the result of the transaction to which I alluded had apparently given rise to sensations in his Excellency's breast which were unworthy of his enlightened mind, and could alone have induced the design against which it became my duty to remonstrate in the strongest possible language.

15. The above is one of the most important of a number of similar occasions, on which I have been recently compelled to address his Excellency the Vizier in language more forcible than I could have wished, or was, perhaps, strictly conformable with those observances which I have ever maintained in my personal conferences with his Excellency, and by which the utmost seeming cordiality has been preserved, amidst a great deal of difference in opinion.

16. I shall continue to take advantage of every proper opportunity of renewing my instances to his Excellency on the subjects of this despatch, and shall report the effect of them, from time to time, to you, for the Right Honourable the Governor-General's information.

17. The propriety of any active interference, on my part, for the protection of the dependents of Almass, in their new character of Aumils, against the unjust demands of the Vizier, and the question of the permutation of Tufuzzool Hooseyn Khan's jagier for a pension, are points on which I deem it to be necessary to request the instructions of the Government.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th December 1810.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written 14th November 1810.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer.

Although I be aware that Mohummud Ashruff must have joined Colonel Palmer's detachment ere now, and have commenced the duties of his deputation,

tion, yet I deem the conduct of Nowneith Roy to be such as to require your Excellency's animadversion, and I submit Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer's letter to you with this view.

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28 Dec. 1810.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

I am sorry to be under the necessity of preferring to you a complaint against the Aumil, Nowneith Roy, for his inattention to my requisitions, and the extreme reluctance he evinces to furnish me with the requisite establishment and supply of gunpowder for destroying forts and ghurries. Notwithstanding the most pressing demands from me, he has produced in the course of four days only sixteen Bildars and one buffalo load of powder.

I am now encamped within a short distance of several places of which I could obtain immediate possession, but there is no use in my doing so until furnished with the hands and materials requisite for destroying them.

I hope, therefore, I shall shortly be joined by Mohummud Ashruff, whose arrival I expect with impatience, as I shall be obliged till then to occupy my present situation, my measures being clogged and my movements impeded by the Aumil's obstinacy in declining to co-operate zealously with me, though in the service of his own master, the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Camp, Amethee,
8th November 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written 17th November 1810.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I personally stated to your Excellency this morning the substance of a letter which I had then received from Colonel Palmer, and perceiving the impression which it made on your Excellency's mind, I forbear, on this occasion, from offering any further remarks on the subject, but merely forward a translation of the letter, with a translation of another letter on the same subject, which I received, after your Excellency's departure, from Major-General Fuller, commanding the troops in the field. I am satisfied that your Excellency will now issue such orders to Nowneith Roy as will preclude any future applications, either for gunpowder or Bildars, from the commanding officer of the detachment.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

I am still detained at this place for want of gunpowder to destroy the forts, of which, on appearing before them, I shall be put in possession.

Mohummud Ashruff, who joined me on the 11th instant, informs me he has no orders to purchase it, but that it will be sent to me from Lucknow ; you will see, therefore, the expediency of expediting its despatch as much as possible, and in large quantities, or my operations can never be completed.

I myself discovered, a few days ago, a fort of great strength, of which no report had ever been made, and which I am now employing the few Bildars I have in destroying. It is called Ahmarooah, and there are many such places, independent of those described in the list furnished by you, which I conceive it comes within the line of my instructions to destroy.

I am certain you will agree with me in the necessity of resorting to more vigorous measures than have hitherto been adopted by his Excellency the Vizier, to afford me the requisite assistance. My situation is extremely distressing;

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Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

trussing, for I find myself utterly unable to proceed in the execution of my duty, from the neglect or culpable indifference which the agents display to my representations, and, at the same time, I am restricted from using my means to procure the articles so essentially requisite to a speedy fulfilment of my operations.

Mohummud Ashruff is, I believe, exerting himself to procure Bildars, but my progress in demolishing forts by their means must necessarily be slow; and I trust to your representations to the Vizier having quickly the effect of remedying the disappointment I have experienced in not receiving supplies of gunpowder.

I have, &c.

Camp, Amethee,
13th November 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter from
Major-General
Fuller.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

By a letter received, through Lieutenant-Colonel Martindell, from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, employed in the reduction of forts in the possession of refractory Zemindars, in the Vizier's dominions, I learn he has been under the necessity of entertaining an expensive establishment of Bildars, not only for the purpose of clearing the roads for the passage of the battering train accompanying his detachment, but for levelling the forts of those Zemindars as they come into his possession.

Owing to the want of pioneers at any convenient distance to Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer's scene of action, the continuation of the establishment for the former purpose is a matter of necessity, but for the tedious service of levelling mud forts will, I am afraid, be found very inadequate, unless assisted by the people of his Highness the Nawaub Vizier, to whom, in my humble opinion, a request so materially connected with the expeditious accomplishment of his wishes may be safely made, and in the propriety of which I hope you will coincide.

I have, &c.

Head-Quarters, in the Field,
Merut, 11th November 1810.

(Signed) F. FULLER,
Major-General.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 18th November 1810.)

I have received your letter of yesterday's date, conveying for my information, translations of letters to your address from Major-General Fuller and Colonel Palmer.

Immediately on my arrival at the palace, I issued the most positive orders to Mohummud Ashruff and to Nowneith Roy, to furnish, without any delay, as many Bildars and as great a quantity of gunpowder as might be required by Colonel Palmer for the purpose of destroying the forts, and informed them that, in the case of any further delay or inattention, they should be called to a severe account. It has been represented to me by Nusseer-oo Dowlah, that a hundred and eighty maunds of gunpowder are ready, and may be forwarded immediately to Colonel Palmer.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee
of the Aumil.

The Arzee of Mohummud Ashruff, dated the 16th November 1810.

Dewan Zubber Sing, Talookadar of Puttee, in consequence of his elaka being on the borders of the Company's territories, has become refractory, and does

not

not pay the revenue. This elaka is very fertile, and capable of yielding a large increase. The late Seetulpershaud, during the time he was Aumil, used to receive from Zubber Sing a very large and satisfactory assessment; but after that Aumil's removal, Zubber Sing paid only what he pleased. The amount formerly received by me from Zubber Sing was much greater than what is now realized, and the sum stipulated for by the late Rajah Newaz Sing in the fusly year 1216, was reduced in the year 1217, after the death of Newaz Sing, 27,000 rupees. Zubber Sing, notwithstanding that his elaka is now become Amanee, and measures have been adopted to prevent the refractory Zemindars of this Government from taking refuge in the Company's territories, has not attended the Aumil, but has sent a Vakeel to Nowneith Roy, who entered into an agreement with the Vakeel; yet, from the amount of this agreement for the fusly year 1217, although much lower than it ought to be, a large balance is still due, and withholden under frivolous pretexts; and though he formerly used to attend me in person, he has now merely sent his Vakeel, the consequence of which conduct on his part is, that all the other Zemindars and Talookadars expect their settlements to be made on the terms of the last year's assessment, and in those estates where a decrease is admitted, require their lands to be made kham, or to be farmed to them for a mere trifle, in which case nothing but loss will accrue; and instead of your Excellency's profiting by the measures which have lately been adopted, the employment of the British troops, the expense of thousands of rupees, and my deputation to the country, those measures will be of no avail. What advantage, indeed, can my deputation produce, if a settlement is now to be made for no more than the former jumma, which every ordinary Chuckludar could have collected in his district as formerly, without any assistance of mine; whereas, if the elaka of Zubber Sing should be settled at an increase, to my heart's satisfaction, for the present fusly year, all the other Zemindars in the district, who are now determined on withholding any increase on the Revenue of their estates, would then willingly come forward.

I have thus submitted to your Excellency what appeared to me to be my duty, with a view to the advantage of the State, and have only further to obey whatever orders your Excellency may issue, representing humbly for consideration, that the sooner the settlement is made the better, and that if much longer delayed, it will be very difficult to realize the revenue.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 21st November 1810.)

I have perused with great attention the copy of Mohummud Ashhruff's arzee, which your Excellency was pleased to transmit to me, and the contents of it have excited my concern. This person appears, by his own statement, in direct opposition to what was at first agreed on between your Excellency and me, to consider himself as deputed to those districts solely for the purpose of increasing the revenue, by exacting larger sums from the Zemindars than they have hitherto paid to the Government, whereas the basis of all my representations to your Excellency on this subject has been my firm persuasion and belief, that the country has already suffered greatly from the extortions of former Aumils, and that a settlement on the most moderate terms, particularly for the first year, with remission of all former balances to the end of the fusly year 1216, was advisable, if not absolutely necessary to the future prosperity of your subjects.

It is true that I am by no means acquainted with the state of the talooka of Zubber Sing, nor indeed of any other elakas; yet your Excellency will be pleased to remember, that, with the view of obtaining correct information on those points, I have often and repeatedly suggested the preparation and transmission of a scheme before the settlement should be commenced on; and had this scheme of a triennial settlement been furnished to your Excellency and me in the manner which I suggested, the embarrassment and vexation which now occur could never have been felt by either of us.

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Arzee
of the Aumil.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

It

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

It is evident from Mohummud Ashruff's own words, that nothing but oppression to the Ryots, disputes between him and the Zemindars, and finally, disorders in the country, can be expected from his deputation; that the views which I had entertained, and for the satisfactory accomplishment of which both your Excellency and I have laboured so long and have had so many unpleasant discussions during a period of five months, must be entirely and inevitably frustrated; and that no satisfactory arrangement can be made in the present year. I entreat your Excellency to consider these circumstances maturely, and to take the necessary steps with regard to them, before every measure be too late.

I further request your Excellency to inform me what measures have been adopted with respect to the fortresses belonging to Mohun Loll Oopadhea, towards ascertaining the state of the fortress of Goree, and the despatch of the Bildars and gunpowder to Colonel Palmer.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 22d November 1810.)

I have received your letter of yesterday's date. (Recapitulates its contents.)

In one of the conferences which we had together, the subject of taking an increase of revenue from the mchauls of Sooltanpore, Pertaubghur, Dalmow and Barellic, was discussed; and you then stated your opinion, that an increase might, of course, be demanded, where assets for that purpose were established, but that, in every elaka where a decrease of assets was proved, remissions should be granted to the Zemindars.

As Mohummud Ashruff has stated in his arzee, that the elaka of Zubber Sing is very fertile and capable of yielding a large increase, but that Zubber Sing pays just what he pleases, and that even the jumma of 1216, in itself far too low, was reduced in the ensuing year 1217 fusly, &c., it therefore follows, that notwithstanding the capability of Zubber Sing's estate, he has hitherto, for a number of years, contrived to lessen his jumma, and now that a triennial settlement is about to be entered into with him, and the British detachment is in the vicinity of his Elaka, he should be compelled to pay the full value of his lands. If you, however, will suggest any other measures with a reference to this Zemindar, the necessary orders shall be issued in conformity with them to Mohummud Ashruff.

What you have hitherto suggested has been fully carried into effect; and the tenor of the proclamations which were issued by me, at your suggestion, shall in future be strictly adhered to. I before informed you, that the delay and failure in the preparation and transmission of a scheme of settlement was to be ascribed to the non-attendance of the Zemindars; nevertheless I have again, agreeably to your request, issued the strictest orders to the Aumils and to Mohummud Ashruff, to transmit it with all expedition.

With regard to the evacuation of the fortress, orders have been issued to Mohun Loll Oopadhea; but as yet I have received no answer from him. I also directed Mohun Loll Oopadhea to transmit to the Presence a true statement of the fortress of Goree; and he has represented, in answer, that he is unable to send an account of that fortress, as he is unacquainted with the name of the Chuckludar in which it is situated. If it be in Dalmow, it must be Gora, of which Deen Sahy, a Byse, is the Talookadar. If it be in the elaka of Behar, the name is Gorhee, and Girwur Sing, a Goossein, is the Zemindar. If it be in Sooltanpore, Gore is a large village, and not a fortress, containing strong and fortified houses belonging to Zemindars.

Strict orders have been issued to Mohummud Ashruff to procure Bildars, and he has employed as many as he could get, and I am certain that he will entertain as many more as may be procurable. Mohummud Ashruff some time ago intimated to the Presence, that Bildars had been entertained at the rate of two
rupees

rupees and a half per mensem, on the condition of their being regularly paid every fifteen days, to which I agreed: yet Mohummud Ashruff having since represented that the Bildars demand three rupees per mensem, and will not agree to receive two and a half, I have consented even to this demand, with the view of precluding inconvenience from the want of Bildars.

I have understood from the Akhbars that Mohummud Ashruff has provided Colonel Palmer with eleven maunds and thirty seers of gunpowder. Seetula Bukhsh Oopadhea would appear to be in attendance, and to have had a meeting with Colonel Palmer. Orders have been issued for the despatch of one hundred and eighty maunds of gunpowder to Colonel Palmer, but it has been delayed, in consequence of the scarcity of hackeries. When they are procured, the powder shall be immediately despatched.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written November the 25th 1810.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 22d instant, in answer to my letter of the preceding day.

From the contents of Mohummud Ashruff's arzee, two inferences are, in my mind, most obviously to be deduced, namely; first, that he has hitherto been totally unmindful of the most important object of his deputation, the preparation and transmission of a scheme of the settlement, as repeatedly recommended by me; and, secondly, that he is bent on exacting an increase from every Zemindar and Talookadar in the district. Both these circumstances are, in my mind, insuperable obstacles to the speedy settlement of the country; and being so, it is my duty to submit them to your Excellency without delay, as, indeed, it is my duty, upon every occasion, to represent the improper conduct of your Aumils, with the view of enabling your Excellency to check them in due time. The correction of the errors of those Aumils must rest with your Excellency alone.

The excuse, on the part of Mohummud Ashruff, which your Excellency has been pleased to convey, for his delaying to forward the scheme, is, in my opinion, totally groundless. In the preparation of a scheme of settlement for approval, there can be no occasion whatever for the attendance of any of the Zemindars. It is a duty invariably and exclusively performed by the Seghadars and Aumils of the districts without reference to the Zemindars. The Aumil personally inspects the different estates, estimates the produce of the crops, and agreeably to that estimate the scheme of the settlement is prepared and transmitted, under the seals and signatures of the several revenue officers of the district, to the Presence for approval. When approved and returned to the Aumil, the Zemindars of the several villages are summoned to attend; and if they do so of their own accord, and agree to enter into engagements at the rate of assessment which has been fixed, the settlement is at once concluded, otherwise the measure of farming the estates to other persons, or retaining them in the hands of the Aumil, is then to be considered and decided on.

Respecting the fortress of Gouree, &c., I have attentively read the list of fortresses in the three mehals, which were furnished by your Excellency, and in neither of them have I been able to discover the name or situation of Gouree. This circumstance affords another material proof of the negligence and inattention of those Aumils by whom the lists of the fortresses were transmitted. With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that Seetulah Bukhsh is in attendance on Colonel Palmer, I suggest, for your Excellency's consideration, the propriety of your furnishing me with a correct list of the fortresses belonging to Mohun Loll, which I shall forward immediately to Colonel Palmer, with instructions to that officer to demand their surrender by Seetulah Bukhsh, and in the case of that person's refusal, to seize him and send him to Lucknow.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

2 K

From

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Consultations,
28 Dec. 1810.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 27th November 1810.)

I have received your letter, dated the 25th, in answer to mine of the 22d instant, suggesting the propriety of the preparation and transmission to the Presence of a scheme for the triennial settlement, &c.

The case is this, that repeated orders have already been issued to the three Aumils of those Elakas, to prepare and transmit, without delay, a scheme of the settlement of their respective Elakas; and now, agreeably to your suggestion, I have transmitted the most positive injunctions on this subject to Mohumud Ashruff.

With a reference to what you have stated respecting the fortress of Gouree, "that you have attentively perused the list of fortresses," &c., I now transmit to you a correct description of that fortress, from a perusal of which you will be made acquainted with every thing regarding it.

With regard to your request of a list of the fortresses belonging to Mohun Loll Oopadhea, for the purpose of being forwarded to Colonel Palmer, &c. the case is this: what was formerly represented by Mohun Loll has already been sent to you, and I know no better measure than that which you have suggested. You may, therefore, desire Colonel Palmer to ascertain if it be practicable from Sectula Bukhsh the number of fortresses in the possession of Mohun Loll, and demand their evacuation and surrender, and in the case of Sectula Bukhsh's refusal to seize him and send him to Lucknow.

I transmit, for your information, a copy of the shookha addressed to Mohumud Ashruff on the 26th instant. Had I a list of the fortresses of Mohun Loll among the records, a copy of it should have been sent to you in the first instance: when I do get a list of them, you may rely upon receiving it immediately.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure.

Translation of the Shookha to Mohummud Ashruff. (Dated the 26th November 1810.)

Your arzec, dated the 24th instant, in answer to the shookha addressed to you, has been perused; and I am directed by his Excellency to inform you, that the particulars of the Elaka of Deenah Sing, which has been mentioned in a cursory manner, should have been represented more explicitly in detail. Byreesall is himself very dilatory in paying the dues of the Government, and therefore of what use is his security for any other Zemindar. Roy Diakrishen will leave this to-morrow and proceed towards your quarter. The Roy is sent to arrange matters in conjunction with you, and to adjust the balances of revenue for the year 1217 fusly, which you will accordingly proceed to adjust in concert with the Roy, and transmit the papers as soon as possible to the Presence.

With regard to the settlement of the arrears of Behadur Sing, Zemindar of Pertaubghur, it is necessary that, agreeably to the tenor of the proclamation which has been issued at the suggestion of the Resident and forwarded to the commanding officer of the troops, you remit the whole of the balances for the year 1216 fusly, and labour to obtain proper security for the balances of 1217, and the revenue of the current year 1218 to be settled with the several Zemindars. If an increase of assets beyond the former assessment of any estate be established, of course an increase must be demanded, but otherwise no increase should be required. Orders were issued to Nowneith Roy for the transmission of the jumma wasilbaukee account for 1217; and if, in the realization of the revenues for the fusly years 1217 and 1218, there should be any unnecessary delay, you will immediately apply to the commanding officer, who will take the necessary steps to realize it.

Description

Description of the Fortress of Goree.

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Deen Sahy, a Byse, is the Talookadar of Goree, &c., extending from Dal-mow in an easterly direction about five coss. In the talooka of Goree Khass there is a fortress, enclosing about forty-five begahs of ground, surrounded by a parapet wall about three yards broad and six yards high : it contains ten bastions. Towards the west is a large gate and five bastions, two of which are immediately connected with the gate, that is, one a little before and the other in a line with the gateway. On this wall are also three other bastions. Two bastions are on the north and two on the south walls. To the east there is a small gate, which is defended by a strong square bastion about eleven yards in breadth and nine yards in height, pierced with loop-holes. The fortress is encompassed by a very deep ditch, excepting the west side : it has on the other sides a very thick and extensive jungle, beyond which is a large jheel. Within the fortress are habitations of Ryots. Near the portal of the fortress, to the west, is a house in which the family of the Talookadar reside : there are also out-offices of every description within the fortress, such as stables, elephant-houses, and houses for the Sepoys, &c. About a gun-shot from the west wall of the fortress there is a large tank, on which there are a number of babool trees. Whenever the Talookadar resists the Aumil's authority, he generally commences firing from this tank ; and when compelled to give up this situation, here turns to the fortress, and keeps up a fire from thence on the Aumil's people. The Talookadar has in his possession two elephants, ten horses, three mares, three hackeries of four bullocks each, and two of two bullocks each, seventeen camels, and has constantly in his service five hundred Sepoys. On his opposing the authority of the Aumil he is assisted by Sheopershaud Byse, Talookadar of Singurpore, in the Elaka of Dulmow, Zalim Sing, the banished Talookadar of Buddree in Behar, and the Zemindars of Tilooce in the Elaka of Salone. In the fusly year 1213, Deen Sahy fought with the Naib of Joogul Kishore. He gives the kuboolcat of his Elaka himself. He has erected this fortress since the time of Joogul Kishore, before which period there was no fortress in Goree.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 5th instant, the communications contained in which, and in your preceding despatch of the 7th ultimo, have engaged the deliberate attention of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

2. The tenor of your several instructions to the officers commanding the British troops in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, for the guidance of their conduct in executing the duty of reducing to obedience the refractory Zemindars of those districts and destroying their forts, and the measures which you have suggested to his Excellency the Vizier, with a view to facilitate the accomplishment of those objects, and your unwearied exertions to induce his Excellency to give effect to them, are entirely approved by the Governor-General in Council.

3. His Lordship in Council more especially approves the arrangement which you proposed to his Excellency for the future settlement of the districts, as detailed in your letter to his address of the 8th of October, and laments the obstacles referable to the injudicious proceedings of his Excellency himself, by which that arrangement has been frustrated.

4. His Lordship in Council laments the failure of your repeated endeavours to induce his Excellency to alter the destructive system of management which prevails, with respect to the extensive districts formerly under the charge of the late Almass Alee Khan.

5. The interests of the British Government, however, are too deeply concerned in the reform of the present vicious system of administration in his Excellency's

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Letter
from Secretary to
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Excellency's dominions, to permit his Lordship in Council tacitly to acquiesce in its continuance. To the evils and abuses of that system, to the oppression and injustice which naturally flow from it, are principally to be ascribed those disorders which the British troops are so frequently employed to suppress. This Government has ever viewed with painful regret the employment of its troops in services of this nature, the general tendency of which has necessarily been to uphold and encourage those acts of violence, injustice, and extortion which a system erroneous in its principle and oppressive, in its operation cannot fail to engender.

6. It concerns the reputation of the British Government, therefore, as well as its interest, to interpose the weight of its influence, for the introduction of a reform which may relieve us from the imputation of being the instruments of oppression and injustice, of perpetuating the practical gradation of evils and abuses, which, unsupported by the military power of the Company, would speedily produce their natural consequences, successful resistance to the authority of the Vizier, and general anarchy and confusion throughout his Excellency's dominions.

7. Your efforts of persuasion and remonstrance, which appear to his Lordship in Council to have been employed with distinguished judgment and unremitted zeal and assiduity, having proved unavailing, the Governor-General in Council deems it his duty to interpose the influence of the British Government, in a more direct and decided form. Accordingly the Governor-General has addressed a letter to his Excellency the Vizier, referring to recent transactions, noticing the evils and errors of the existing system of the administration of the revenue, and suggesting the outline of a plan of reform which is recommended for his Excellency's adoption.

8. An English copy of that letter is enclosed for your information: the original, in the Persian language, will be transmitted to you from the Persian department.

9. The Governor-General in Council, adverting to the character and established habits of the Vizier, does not entertain any sanguine hopes, that either the proposed arrangement will be carried into complete effect, or that the engagements which may be concluded under it will be faithfully adhered to. It is to be apprehended, that his Excellency will not be induced to accede to the terms of a just and moderate assessment, to sacrifice, for the hope of some permanent but distant benefit, any prospect, however fallacious, of immediate pecuniary profit; that, while he acquiesces in the expediency of the plan, he will interpose obstacles to its efficient execution; and that its operation will be, in a great measure, defeated by practices and abuses, which the ordinances of a wise and well constituted Government, or a strong and steady principle of justice in the governing power, is alone capable of restraining; at the same time, even a defective execution of the plan will be attended with some advantage. The engagements which may be concluded will, at least, form a criterion by which to judge of the merits of complaints of oppression, to regulate demands, to afford relief, or to inflict punishment; and some foundation will be laid for the gradual improvement of the system of administration. At all events, this Government discharges a positive duty, by employing its efforts for the correction of evils affecting its own interests, the interests of humanity and justice, those of his Excellency and of his subjects, and the prosperity and tranquillity of his dominions; and we preserve, by asserting and exercising it, that right of interference, which by disuse might prescriptively be lost or essentially impaired, and which, if not on the present, may on some future occasion be efficiently exercised.

10. The Governor-General's letter to the Vizier's address is intended to support the renewal of those efforts, which you have already so laudably, but ineffectually, employed for the reform of the present ruinous and oppressive system of assessment and collection.

11. It is not necessary that you should insist on an adherence to the strict letter of the arrangement suggested in the Governor-General's letter. Some modifications of it may be required by the state of local circumstances, and even

even by the irremediable vices of the existing system ; but its four fundamental principles, viz., a just and moderate assessment, a settlement for a term of years, the conclusion of engagements by gradation from the Aumil to the Ryot, and the guarantee of those engagements, must form the basis of any system of modified reform.

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from Secretary to
Government.

12. On your approved zeal, local knowledge, and address, the Governor-General in Council confidently relies, for any attainable degree of success in the execution of the duty thus committed to your charge.

13. The Governor-General in Council would willingly lay a foundation for the introduction of that most efficient and beneficial system of reform, a permanent settlement of the land revenue. It is not, however, to be supposed, that a country which has been rendered so unproductive by an oppressive administration, should in that state be ripe for a permanent settlement ; or that a sovereign wedded to so vicious an administration as that of the Vizier, should be brought at once to the adoption of principles and measures so foreign to his own character and that of his government. Such a proposition, therefore, cannot be brought forward at the present time ; but a fixed revenue from the land is, in other points of view, peculiarly suited to the condition of a government, which by its dependent connection with another, is not subject to great occasional increase of charge, defensive or otherwise, and the expenses of which, therefore, may themselves be considered as permanently fixed.

14. But although the present time is not favourable to so great a change, his Lordship in Council is of opinion that it should be an object of our policy gradually to bring it about, and that Government cannot employ the influence which it has a right to exercise over the affairs of Oude, either more usefully or more worthily, than first in promoting the general improvement of the internal administration of that country, which is the purpose of the present measure, and subsequently in introducing, if possible, at a proper season, that radical principle of prosperity, both to government and people, the permanent settlement of its land revenues.

15. You will not fail to observe that the Governor-General has not adverted, in his letter to the Vizier, to that branch of administration, without which no arrangement for the due management of the revenues can ever be completely efficient, namely, the establishment of tribunals of justice for the protection of the lives and property of the subject, for the detection and punishment of crimes, for the redress of grievances, and for the adjustment of disputed claims. His Lordship has been withheld from introducing that subject, by his unwillingness to press at once upon his Excellency's attention too many objects of reform, and thereby diminish the hope of his regard to any. A system of judicial administration, however, is so intimately connected with the efficient operation of the proposed arrangement for the assessment and realization of the revenues, that the future, if not the immediate establishment of it, must be kept in view. It will be proper, therefore, that you should be prepared, at a convenient season, to urge this important topic ; and to facilitate your eventual representations on this subject, I am directed to trace the general outlines and principles of the system of judicial administration which should be recommended to his Excellency's adoption, although little hope can be entertained that he will ever be induced to adopt it more than partially, if he adopt it at all. Still, however, in bringing formally to the notice of the Vizier the vices and abuses of his administration, and in proposing a reform, it is necessary to represent to his Excellency all the means by which that reform may be rendered effectual.

16. The principles by which alone any efficient system of judicial arrangement can be regulated, must be those which form the basis of that system within our territories.

17. The first and fundamental measure would be to deprive the Aumils, landholders, and farmers, of the civil and criminal jurisdiction which they at present exercise with control.

18. Courts of justice should be established in all the districts under his Excellency's authority. These courts should be subject to the control and superintendence

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superintendence of a general court of justice to be established at the capital with appellate jurisdiction.

19. The provincial courts should not be subject to the authority and control of the Aumils. On the contrary, the Aumils themselves, as well as every other description of persons residing within the several districts, should be amenable to the local courts of justice, or at least to the superior court established at the capital.

20. The judges of the provincial courts should be amenable for all acts done in their official capacity, or otherwise, either to the superior court at the capital or to the intermediate courts, if it should be judged necessary to establish such.

21. This arrangement should be combined with an efficient system of police throughout the country, calculated to secure the apprehension of offenders for the purpose of bringing them to justice.

22. This general system, modified as it necessarily must be in its details according to local circumstances and to the constitution of the Government, would obviously be the most efficient; but no hope can, perhaps, be entertained, that his Excellency will ever be induced to adopt it in its fullest extent. Even the charges of its establishment would appear to his Excellency to overbalance all the advantages of its adoption. He might possibly be persuaded, however, gradually to introduce some local tribunals, and lodge the control of their proceedings in a competent court established at the capital; and the establishment of any channel through which complaints might be heard, grievances redressed, and crimes brought to light and punished, would yet be a positive advantage, and might, at least, lay the foundation of a more improved system of judicial administration.

23. It is premature to enter into any discussion of the details of this suggested measure: they will naturally arise out of the negotiation, whenever it shall be in progress, and may be arranged without much difficulty.

24. You will observe, that the Governor-General has judged it proper to advert, in his letter to the Vizier, to the two points of reference contained in your despatch of the fifth instant. His Lordship in Council entirely approves the tenor of the advice and remonstrances which you addressed to his Excellency, respecting the dependants of the late Almass Alee Khan, and the resumption of Tufuzzool Hoossein Khan's jagier, and desires that you will renew your representations on both those subjects, under the express sanction of the Governor-General's authority.

25. Our right to demand the adoption of more just and lenient proceedings with respect to the unfortunate family of Almass Alee Khan, than those which his Excellency has hitherto pursued, is more questionable than that which we possess, and are bound, indeed, by every obligation of justice, to exercise, of securing the family of the late Tufuzzool Hoossein Khan from the effects of his Excellency's disposition to injure their condition. You will renew your efforts of persuasion in favour of the former; but with regard to the latter, you will distinctly signify to his Excellency, that the British Government considers itself as the guarantee of their rights, derived from his predecessor, and cannot acquiesce in any violation of them. I am directed to observe, that you repelled with proper spirit the ungenerous insinuations into which his Excellency suffered himself to be betrayed, on the occasion of your remonstrating against the assumption of Tufuzzool Hoossein Khan's jagier.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
28th December 1810.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Ordered, That in consequence of the foregoing letter, the following one be addressed by the Governor-General to his Excellency the Vizier.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 28th December 1810.)

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From the
Governor-General.

The Resident has regularly reported to me the details of his correspondence and the substance of his personal communications with your Excellency, on the subject of the measures which have been pursued with respect to the refractory Zemindars in the districts of Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore, &c. The satisfaction with which I observed your Excellency's acquiescence in the judicious arrangements suggested by the Resident, with a view to the settlement of those districts on principles calculated to obviate the occurrence of those disorders, which have so repeatedly required the employment of the British troops, and to secure the regular realization of your revenues, has been greatly impaired, by perceiving the obstacles which the conduct of your Excellency's officers has opposed to the execution of the very measures which they were employed to facilitate.

It is not my intention, in this address, to notice the specific causes of interruption in the accomplishment of the plan of arrangement proposed by the Resident, and adopted by your Excellency: these have been fully exposed in Captain Baillie's representations to your Excellency; but to solicit your attention to a few observations which a review of past transactions and of existing circumstances, renders it my duty to submit to your Excellency's consideration.

Since the conclusion of the treaty of November 1801, scarcely a year has elapsed in which the British troops have not been employed for the purpose of reducing to obedience the refractory Zemindars in your Excellency's territory, or of enforcing the payment of balances of revenue from Aumils and others, who were unable to fulfil their engagements. In fact, it may almost be said that the revenues of your country are collected at the point of the sword. As the burthen of these measures of rigour necessarily falls upon the Company's Government; as the British troops are employed at the requisition of your Excellency, or of your Aumils, for the suppression of every disorder in the interior of your dominions, from whatever cause it may have arisen; your Excellency will certainly admit, that it is the duty of this Government to make some inquiry into the sources of this evil, and that we are entitled to expect the adoption of such a system of measures as, in the judgment of this Government, is calculated to counteract it, without injury to the rights and authority of your Excellency, which we are bound by treaty to support.

This right of interposing our advice, indeed, is derived not only from the very nature of the circumstances above described, but from the express terms of the sixth article of the treaty, by which your Excellency engaged to establish in your reserved dominions such a system of administration, (to be carried into effect by your own officers), as should be conducive to the prosperity of your subjects, and calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants; and your Excellency further engaged always to advise with, and act in conformity to, the counsel of the officers of the Honourable Company.

With reference to this particular stipulation, the late Governor-General, Marquis Wellesley, in a paper which he delivered to your Excellency under his seal and signature, at the period of his visit to Lucknow in the year 1802, purporting to be a memorandum of the final result of the discussions between your Excellency and his Lordship, observed that your Excellency had engaged to advise with the British Government, and to conform to its counsels in the establishment of an improved system of administration within the reserved dominions, and also in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of these dominions, and with the usual exercise of your Excellency's established authority.

His Lordship in the same paper stated, that the Governor-General, when the importance of the subject should require, and the nature of the occasion should admit his immediate intercourse with your Excellency, would offer the advice of the British Government to your Excellency, by a direct communication, either in person or by letter, although the British Resident at Lucknow was the constituted local representative of that Government, and the ordinary and established channel of communication in all cases whatever, and his advice was to be received as proceeding immediately from the Governor-General.

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Letter from
Governor-General.

The Resident, Captain Baillie, has very properly discharged this function of his office, by repeatedly representing to your Excellency the errors and the evils of the system which prevails in the administration of the department of revenue throughout your Excellency's dominions, and by urging the adoption of the measures best calculated to diminish or remove them. His endeavours, however, although to a certain extent encouraged by your Excellency's assent to some of his propositions, have not been successful: it, therefore becomes my duty, in the form of a direct address, to interpose the earnest advice and recommendation of the British Government on this important subject.

The evils and abuses prevailing in the administration of the revenues arise principally from the destructive practice of assigning the charge of the collections to persons who offer the highest terms; from the uncertain tenure by which the Aumils hold the charge of their respective districts; from the violation of the engagements contracted between the Aumils, Zemindars, under-renters, and Ryots; from the arbitrary and oppressive exactions which pervade the whole system of the revenue through every gradation, from the Aumil to the Ryot; from the defective and injudicious constitution of that system, and the injurious mode of making the collections.

It is solely to the prevalence of this defective and destructive system of administration, that the refractory disposition of the Zemindars, the failure of the Aumils and farmers in the execution of their engagements, the existence of heavy balances, and all the disorders which so frequently require the employment of troops, are to be attributed.

These evils can alone be remedied by an essential change in the system of assessment, management, and collection.

It would greatly facilitate the collection of the revenue, as well as increase the future resources of the country, if the assessment of the lands throughout the country should be regulated by the real assets of the several districts, to be ascertained by actual investigation and be fixed for a certain time, and if that assessment should be increased only in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the several districts, which might be expected to arise from an improved system of administration. The practice of assigning the districts to the charge of persons who agree to pay the largest amount of revenue, or engage to realize the revenue of a country already over assessed, without regard to character and qualifications, or to the actual resources of the lands, combined with the limited and uncertain period of the Aumil's tenure, impairs the sources of production, and encourages injustice, violence, and oppression; since the Aumil, possessing no interest in the prosperity of the country, and solicitous of deriving the greatest possible profit from his temporary situation, or of avoiding a failure in his engagements, which he knows will be followed by confinement and the confiscation of his property, plunders and oppresses without restraint.

The districts should be given in charge to persons of established and respectable character, and of undoubted qualifications. Their tenure should be extended and secured to them, whilst their conduct should continue to merit the confidence of their sovereign.

Fixed salaries should be assigned to them, and they should be allowed to derive a profit from the augmentation of the resources in their respective districts, an augmentation, however, which should depend not on the over-assessment of the lands, but on increased cultivation and population, which will be the necessary consequence of the introduction of a just and moderate system of administration.

The revenue to be paid by the Zemindars, renters, and Ryots, should be fixed, on a full investigation of the capacity of the lands, by written engagements, which should be guaranteed by the State; and no more than what is specified in those engagements should, on any account, be exacted from the parties.

The Zemindars and others with whom these engagements are contracted, should have the privilege of appealing to the authority of the Government against any violation of them on the part of the Aumils, who would thus be restrained from

from oppression and exaction; and a similar restraint should be imposed on the landholders and farmers, with respect to the engagements which they may take from others.

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Letter from
Governor-General.

The conclusion of a settlement for a certain number of years on just and moderate terms, has ever been found to be highly conducive to the punctual realization of the revenues; and to the prosperity of the country. If the demands upon the landholder are continually fluctuating; if the result of his industry and good management in increasing the cultivation and extending the resources of his land is only an immediate augmentation of the assessment, he is deprived of every inducement to exertion for the improvement of his estate, and, on the contrary, is tempted to obtain illicit profits, by oppression and injustice towards the under-renters and cultivators.

The evils of the existing system have, in no instance, been more strongly exemplified, than in the extensive districts which were under the charge of the late Almass Alee Khan. Those districts, far too extensive to be capable of being managed by any individual Amil, and assessed at an immoderate rate, were successively consigned to Ruhmut Alee Khan and Mirza Jan, the adopted brother and son of Almass. Both, as might be expected, failed in their engagements, and have in consequence been involved in ruin; and those districts have now, I understand, been parcelled out to a number of petty farmers, without any reduction of the terms, and under circumstances which preclude the possibility of the due realization of the revenue, without the gradual devastation of the lands and the ruin of the landholders and peasantry.

I know that the Resident has repeatedly represented to your Excellency the ruinous consequences of these measures, the impolicy and impropriety of consigning so large a portion of your dominions to any individual Amil, and the expediency of appointing a number of trustworthy persons as Ameens, to investigate and report upon the real state of the districts and the condition of the landholders and peasantry, with a view to a beneficial arrangement for the future management of the country.

The failure of his endeavours has induced me to notice this particular subject, in the hope that your Excellency may be at length induced to perceive that the continuance of this system must be attended with every species of oppression, exaction, and disorder, and ultimately destroy the productive sources of the country, and to adopt the suggestions which have so often and so earnestly been conveyed to you by the Resident.

I have another motive, also, for adverting to this particular branch of the general subject, namely, a humane consideration for the fate of the dependants of your late faithful servant, Almass Alee Khan, who were unfortunately led to undertake the management of his districts on terms which it was not possible for them to fulfil, and who are exposed to the rigours of confinement, and menaced with the confiscation of their property for the liquidation of balances of revenue, occasioned by an immoderate assessment of the lands entrusted to their management. On this subject I shall transmit particular instructions to the Resident, to whose representations, urged as they will now be under the express sanction of my authority, I entreat your Excellency's favourable attention.

It must be evident to your Excellency, that a system so erroneous and oppressive as that which now prevails throughout your Excellency's dominions, must necessarily render a large proportion of your subjects turbulent and disaffected, must perpetually occasion insurrection and disorder, and tend to the gradual but certain decrease of your revenues. On the other hand, I leave your Excellency to judge with what extreme regret this Government observes the active services of its troops continually required for the purpose of enforcing this destructive system of administration.

But I have already stated arguments sufficient to demonstrate the indispensable necessity of a reform of that system, and I have suggested the general principles by which it would be highly improved: I shall, therefore, only add my earnest request, that your Excellency will give your serious and immediate attention to the accomplishment of an object in every respect so important to

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Consultations,
28 Dec. 1810.

Letter from
Governor-General.

your interests, your reputation, the prosperity and tranquillity of your country, and the comfort and happiness of your subjects, in which salutary work the Resident will be prepared, under my instructions, to afford to your Excellency every degree of assistance and support.

I cannot close this address without adverting to another topic, in some degree connected with the general subject of it. I allude to the intention which your Excellency has declared, of transferring the jagier of Tujummool Hoossein Khan to the management of an Aumil of your own selection, who should pay a certain yearly sum in lieu of it to the jagierdar.

The peculiar circumstances under which that jagier was granted and guaranteed to the family of the late respected Tufuzzool Hoossein Khan, and the extraordinary claims to favour and indulgence which that family has both on your Excellency and the British Government, render it a positive duty, on my part, to solicit your Excellency, in the strongest manner, to abstain from the prosecution of a measure so injurious to the interests of Tujummool Hoossein Khan.

On this subject I have directed the Resident to renew his representations to your Excellency, and I confidently trust that this appeal to your Excellency's justice will not be made in vain.

Believe me, &c.,

A true copy :

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 Feb. 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 9th February 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which I have lately received from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, detailing that officer's proceedings with the detachment under his command, in the suppression of the refractory Zemindars and reduction of the several fortresses in the districts of Pertaubghur and Barellic.

2. It is satisfactory to be enabled to trace in those documents the progressive accomplishment of the particular objects of the Vizier's Government, in which alone the responsibility of the British Government is involved, namely, the suppression of his Excellency's rebellious subjects, and the capture and demolition of their fortresses, without any of the casualties of war.

3. It is also satisfactory to observe, that the recent reports of the commanding officer of the British troops in Pertaubghur do not, as heretofore, contain complaints of the negligence and improper conduct of the officers of this Government, as tending to impede his operations; but, on the other hand, I am sorry to remark, that my information of the progress of those officers towards a just and moderate settlement of the revenue of the districts in question, or an arrangement calculated to ensure the permanent tranquillity of the country and the happiness and prosperity of its inhabitants, does not enable me, at present, to form any inference more favourable than that which was submitted in my despatch on the subject, dated the 5th of December last.

4. His Excellency the Vizier, however, has of late repeatedly assured me, that my suggestions, with a reference to those districts, have formed the basis of his positive injunctions to the several Aumils who are employed in them, and that a scheme of a triennial settlement, which he has reason to consider as satisfactory, will be furnished in a few days.

5. With

5. With a reference to the Vizier's recent arrangements for the large portion of his dominions which was formerly farmed by Almass, to his Excellency's rigorous proceedings against Mirza Jan, and to the suspension of Tujummool Hoossein Khan's authority in his jagier, the state of my discussions with his Excellency is exactly what it was when I last had the honour of addressing you. The newly-appointed Aumils have proceeded to take charge of their districts. Mirza Jan is confined to his house, in the daily expectation of removal to prison; and the management of Tujummool Hoossein Khan's jagier has been transferred, without his consent, to a person named Sevook Ram, the former Dewan of Meah Ruhmut.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

6. This latter arrangement being intended and calculated to secure to Tujummool Hoossein Khan the sum of Rupees 40,000 per annum, as the clear revenue of his jagier, which is as much as it has recently yielded, is considered and maintained by his Excellency the Vizier to be no innovation whatever; while Tujummool Hoossein Khan represents, with apparent justice, the suspension of his personal authority and control over the lands as, in fact, the conversion of his jagier into an annual pension for life.

7. Having already thought it my duty to solicit the express commands of the Government on the two principal questions which are stated in this despatch, and perceiving the resolution of his Excellency the Vizier to persist in his own opinion with a reference to those questions, without offering any arguments which could produce an alteration in mine, I have abstained, and shall continue to abstain, from pressing my sentiments on his consideration, till I be favoured with an answer to my despatch under date the 5th December.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th January 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have obtained possession of the forts of Rajghur, Jugdeespore, Shahghur, Pooroobgong, and Bursowlee, of which I have demolished the former; but the other places are of such strength that I shall make but small progress in destroying the fortifications until the arrival of gunpowder and of the Bildars, of whom only eighty out of the five hundred, ordered by his Excellency the Vizier, have yet arrived in my camp.

This obstacle will prevent my moving from hence for some days; but as soon as they are destroyed, I shall proceed in the further execution of your instructions with all practicable expedition.

I have, &c.

Camp near Rajghur, Oude,
18th November 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that I yesterday completed the demolition of the undermentioned forts and ghurries:

Shahghur,	Kutscroo,
Dukhangong,	Eksariah, and
Pendarlah,	Oonchagong.

I moved my detachment here this morning, and shall proceed to destroy, with as much expedition as is possible, the places hereafter named, of which I have been put in possession on my arrival:

Syntah,	Mowye,
Rowsu,	Nurrowlee, and
Sungarrah,	Burraroussie.
Pyngah,	

I have

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Bengal Political
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9 Feb. 1811,

I have much pleasure in acquainting you that I have received an ample supply of gunpowder, which I hope will enable me to carry on my operations with greater celerity than heretofore.

I have, &c.

Camp, Lodikabund,
7th December 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, and I have now the honour to submit to you the result of the inquiry instituted by me, in compliance with your desire, relative to the number of forts said to be in the possession of Mohun Loll Oopadhea, in the districts of Pertaubghur and Barellie.

I am at this moment occupied in destroying a ghurry named Bunnatica, and I have visited and carefully inspected a fort called Bholgongwa, which two places are all I can learn to be in his occupation. The latter place I conceive to be formidable to the Aumils; but I have declined destroying it, on his representation that it is used as a prison for refractory persons in the jagiers of her Highness the Begum, who maintains there a company of Sepoys and three toomauns of native troops for its protection. I would, however, wish to be favoured with your opinion on this head. Seetulla Bukhsh has most readily placed it at my disposal.

In regard to the state of the district of Puttee, and the circumstances and period at which the fort of Gowra, after its surrender to a force under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, was restored to Deen Sahy, to which you have called my particular attention in the second and third paragraphs of your letter, I shall submit to you, as soon as possible, what information I am able to gain; but I must avail myself of this opportunity to correct a misapprehension which appears in the papers accompanying your despatch, that Seetulla Bukhsh is in attendance on me. He has been several weeks with the Aumil, during which time he has frequently paid his respects to me, and is in no wise an attendant on my camp, and I carefully avoid interfering in any other way than using my influence to induce those who display reluctance to come in to the Aumil and superintendant, and which I have successfully employed, in many instances, to bring in Zemindars who never before could be persuaded to venture into their presence.

It has been represented to me, that Bowanny Bukhsh Talookadar is a person of excellent character, who has constantly paid his rents, always treated the Aumil with submission and respect, and in no instance availed himself of the strength of his fort, Gurrawlee, to offer the slightest opposition to the Government, but that he has the misfortune to be surrounded by enemies, which renders it highly expedient that he should be permitted to retain it for his protection: I should, therefore, be glad to be allowed to make this place an exception to the general orders to destroy all the forts and ghurries in the country.

I have, &c.

Camp, Lodikabund,
11th December 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that having destroyed the places named in my letter of the 7th instant to your address, I yesterday moved my detachment

ment to this ground, where I am occupied in destroying the undermentioned forts:

Mohummudpore,
Khorah,
Khotalee.

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9 Feb. 1811.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

After which I shall change ground, in order to complete the demolition of Soojakhur, which has been only in part dismantled by the Aumil's people, and then proceed in the further execution of your instructions.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Kutala,
18th December 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I yesterday received intelligence from Mohummud Ashruff, the Agent to his Excellency the Vizier, that a considerable number of people had taken up a position in the fort of Ahmarooah (destroyed by me last month), situated in a thick jungle which completely surrounds the place, and which they had strengthened by means of the stockades, and were committing great disturbances in the surrounding country.

I forthwith ordered against them a party consisting of a six-pounder, a troop of the Third Regiment of Cavalry, and two companies of the second battalion of the Eleventh Regiment, under command of Captain Agnew.

I have much reason to be pleased with the promptitude with which Captain Agnew executed my instructions, by sending forward the cavalry under Lieutenant Dunbar, with orders to surround the place to prevent their escape. All those who had not previously dispersed, on the arrival of the infantry and gun and the gate being forced open, were captured, to the number of twenty-seven men, among whom was the leader, a refractory Zemindar; and the detachment returned to camp in the evening, leaving a company to prevent their re-assembling.

The prisoners have been made over to the Vizier's agent.

I have, &c.

Camp near Khatalie,
24th December 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that having demolished the places named to you in my letter of the 18th instant, and likewise dismantled the fort of Sujakhur, I yesterday morning moved my detachment to this ground, and am now occupied in destroying Khytoolah and Amowah, after which I shall proceed on the further execution of your instructions.

I have, &c.

Camp, Kytoolah,
29th December 1810.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
23 Feb. 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS.

The 23d February 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government:

Sir

1. I am concerned to have occasion to transmit to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have received from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops in Pertaubghur.

2. Immediately on my receipt of that letter, I transmitted a translation of the substance of it for the perusal of his Excellency the Vizier, and I addressed a letter to his Excellency in the terms of the accompanying document, to which I was yesterday honoured with a reply, a translation of which, and translations of its several enclosures, are also conveyed to you by this despatch.

3. I have further the honour of transmitting to you a copy of another letter, more recently received from Colonel Palmer, and a copy of my despatch to that officer, under date the 23d instant.

4. I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated the 28th ultimo. The tenor of this despatch is gratifying to my feelings in the extreme, because it conveys to me the best possible reward of my humble though ardent exertions in the discharge of my public duty; the approbation of the Governor-General in Council. But it is also highly satisfactory, on the far more important ground of its affording that support to my exertions which must eminently contribute to their success, and ultimately tend to the reform of the corrupt and vicious system of his Excellency the Vizier's administration.

5. On my receipt of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency the Vizier from the Persian department, I shall be prepared to renew my efforts of remonstrance and persuasion on the various topics of that letter, and the general subject of your despatch, with additional energy and with improved means of success.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
24th January 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I am under the painful necessity of making known to you, that contrary to the tenor of the Vizier's proclamation, "that the lands in this province shall be assessed at such reasonable rates as to render the payment of the revenue easy to the subject," his Excellency's Agent, Mohummud Ashruff, has lately, in various instances which have come to my knowledge, imposed the most burthensome and highest possible terms on many of the Zemindars, and I have the mortification to perceive that the presence of the British detachment under my command is made use of solely, though under other pretences, to intimidate such persons as venture a remonstrance into an agreement to conclude a settlement at the most exorbitant rates.

The obvious consequences of such behaviour of the Commissioner are a renewal of those discontents which have so long prevailed, and which the assurances contained in his Excellency's proclamation in a great measure caused to subside, a total distrust in such proclamations in future, and the difficulty which will attend the collection of the revenue, if the payment of it should not be altogether refused or evaded.

I deem it my positive duty to apprise you of these proceedings, that you may take such steps as you think expedient to prevail on his Excellency the
Nawaub

Nawaub to put a stop to the unauthorized conduct of his servants, which necessarily tends to reflect discredit on the Government.

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23 Feb. 1811.

I have, &c.

Camp, Comaldipore,
17th January 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 21st January 1811.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

With the greatest reluctance and concern, I submit, for your Excellency's information, the enclosed translation of a letter which I have this day received from Colonel Palmer.

Although the opinion which I originally formed of Mohummud Ashruff, from the contents of his own arzee to your Excellency, a copy of which was transmitted from the Presence for my perusal, has never in any respect been changed, and is exactly as now represented by Colonel Palmer; yet, having repeatedly submitted that opinion to your Excellency at an early period of Mohummud Ashruff's deputation to Pertaubghur, and having reason to believe that your Excellency's positive orders had been issued to him in the spirit of my suggestions, as well as supposing from Colonel Palmer's silence on the subject that those orders had been strictly obeyed, I refrained from urging your Excellency further on the subject, and contented myself with transmitting, in the discharge of my own duty, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, translations and copies of those letters which had passed between your Excellency and me, and which I had received from Colonel Palmer, on the subject of the proceedings in Pertaubghur.

But as Colonel Palmer has now represented the improper conduct of Mohummud Ashruff in such a light as to give evident grounds for the apprehension of the most serious disorders in the country, and even to induce the belief that the employment of the British troops in those districts has been rendered the instrument of extortion and oppression by the officers of your Excellency's Government, to the manifest injury and discredit of both states, I am again reduced to the necessity of submitting a solemn remonstrance against the ruinous conduct of those officers, and of calling on your Excellency to explain the cause of this departure from your orders, and from my repeated exhortations, in the propriety of which you have been pleased to acquiesce. If Mohummud Ashruff have asserted to your Excellency the justice of his assessments and demands, on grounds which seem worthy of consideration, let me be acquainted with those grounds, that I may immediately instruct Colonel Palmer to confront Mohummud Ashruff with the Zemindars; and, in the case of his establishing the justice of his demands, the Colonel shall be ordered to enforce them, or otherwise to protect the Zemindars. But if your Excellency shall reject this suggestion, it must then become my bounden duty, in pursuance of the orders which I have received, to depute an Ameen to the district to ascertain the real circumstances of the case, and report to me on the subject.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier, to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.
(Received the 23d January 1811.)

Letter
from the Vizier

I have received your letter of the 21st instant, conveying for my information a translation of a letter to your address from Colonel Palmer. The case is this: no concern of my Government is ever concealed from you. Before my receipt of your letter I had received accounts of a similar nature, and in consequence issued my orders to Dyakrishen on the 18th instant, a copy of which is enclosed for your information, and from which you will not fail to be convinced that it is not my wish that the Ryots should in any manner be oppressed. I also

send

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23 Feb. 1811.

send a copy of the orders which have now been issued to Dyakrishen and Mohummud Ashruff.

Letter
from the Vizier.

There is no occasion whatever to depute an Aumeen as you propose.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure.

Translation of the Shookha addressed to Roy Dyakrishen. Dated the 18th January 1811.

Your arzee, dated the 12th instant, in answer to the shookha of the Presence, has been received, and I am directed by the Presence to inform you that the assessment of the kham Elakas, and the terms of the kabooleats, whether for three or four years, must be managed in such a manner as to ensure the realization of the revenue and preclude loss to the State, as well as the oppression of the Ryots and consequent discredit of the Presence. If exorbitant assessments be made, the revenue will not be collected and disturbances will be excited in the country. It is also desired that you make a settlement with the least practicable delay. It has been reported to the Presence, that the affairs of Sooltanpore are in a fair way; you must, therefore, after having made the settlement for Pertaubghur, proceed to the Elaka of Dalmow, and after settling that Elaka you must report to the Presence respecting the settlement of Sooltanpore, and act agreeably to the orders which may hereafter be issued to you. Many conversations took place in the Presence respecting the nankar of several mehaults, on which subject you were fully instructed before your departure; and it is very extraordinary that, though well acquainted with the wishes of the Presence, you should continue to act contrary to them.

With respect to what you have stated respecting the personal attendance of the former officers to compare the accounts, you must be well aware that the former Aumil, Peishcar and other officers cannot now attend you. You yourself formerly represented that the papers of Hoolas Sing were in confusion, and that the documents in the possession of the Zemindars must have been made out agreeably to their particular wishes and views, and were therefore totally useless. Your present representations on this subject are of course unavailing.

With regard to the security from Mohun Loll which you have stated, the case is, that that person was sent for by the Presence, and every mark of kindness shewn to him. He was desired to pay the amount which was settled in your presence; yet he has not hitherto paid any thing, nor come to any settlement whatever. If such be his conduct with regard to his own concerns, of what use is his security for others; therefore you must adopt some other measure.

With regard to farming the Elakas to Talookadars, and the terms of their engagements, which you have stated, you must endeavour, if possible, to make every Elaka Kham; and if this cannot be accomplished, you must adopt such other measures as may ensure the realization of the revenues.

A copy of the akhbar of Nowneith Roy is sent for your information, and you are ordered to make all the settlements in such a manner as to preclude disrespect to the Government, or oppression of the Ryots.

Enclosure.

Akhbar of Nowneith Roy, dated the 14th January 1811.

Nowneith Roy, Aumil, paid a visit to Colonel Palmer, returned to his tent, and about three o'clock p.m. went with the Ryots of Pertaubghur to Dyakrishen, and with him and Mohummud Ashruff transacted business relative to the settlement with the Zemindars. The above Aumil having returned to his tent at night, told Byreesal, the Talookadar of Rampore, that the orders of the Presence had in view the ease and convenience of the Ryots, but that the assessments of the

the lands were made at a most exorbitant rate, and that if collections were made agreeably to those assessments the Ryots would inevitably be ruined.

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True translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosures
in Vizier's Letter.

*Translation of a Shookha addressed to Mohummud Ashruff, 27th of Zeelijj, or
23d January 1811.*

A copy of the Resident's letter, and a copy of the translation of one which was enclosed in it from Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, have already been forwarded to Roy Dyakrishen, and you are also directed to peruse those letters with attention. It appears from the contents of those documents, that your assessments are fixed at very exorbitant rates, notwithstanding the orders which were formerly issued, forbidding you to exact any increase which might be the means of distressing the Ryots, and eventually causing loss to the Government, both which are highly improper. You are further directed to make a just and fair settlement with Zubber Sing, in such a manner as not to give cause of distrust to others, nor to give any person cause to complain of your exorbitant assessments. Should Zubber Sing, however, prove refractory, you will, of course, apply to the Colonel for his assistance in punishing him; and if the Colonel agree, it is well, otherwise submit to the Presence the real circumstances of the case; but you are on no account to distress the Ryots unjustly.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

*Translation of the Shookha addressed to Roy Dyakrishen, dated the
23d January 1811.*

Your arzee, dated the 18th instant, in which you state the fortresses in Pertaubghur have been demolished, and that you are occupied in dismantling those in Gurhametie, after which it is your intention to proceed to other Elakas, the account also of the non-attendance of Dewan Zubber Sing, Talookadar, the improper expenditure of Jendypershaud, his dismissal from office, and the appointment of another person in his stead, &c. has been received.

I am directed to transmit to you a copy of a letter received from the Resident, &c., exactly as in the shookha to Mohummud Ashruff, with the addition of the following paragraph :

"The removal of Jendypershaud has been approved, and you must realize the amount of the sum which he has embezzled. Whatever you deem proper with regard to the talooka of Bhoolpore may be done, provided no loss occur to the Government."

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that the detachment under my command marched to this ground yesterday morning, and that, during its encampment near Comaldipore, the undermentioned places were destroyed, some of which were of strength, and all capable of making resistance against a native power :

Kannoo,
Jogepoorah,
Bhowpoorah;
Dandiapoorah,
Nagmunpoorah,

Bissawan,
Burreebandeh,
Shingenec,
Ramghur,
Himmutghur.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

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I expect to learn in the course of the day that Bhotgonga and Nurrowlie are completely dismantled, and some places in Deleippore have been demolished by parties from the detachment, the names of which I have not learned.

I have &c.

Camp near Behadur,
19th January 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding in Pertaubghur.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your three separate despatches, dated the 4th, 17th, and 19th instant, the first and latter reporting your proceedings for my information, and that of the 17th instant describing the improper conduct of his Excellency the Vizier's Aumil, in imposing exorbitant rates of assessment on many of the Zemindars.

2. I entirely concur in your opinion of the expediency and necessity of putting an immediate stop to those unjust proceedings of the Aumil, and I have accordingly addressed an application on this subject, in strong terms, to his Excellency the Vizier, the result of which shall be conveyed to you hereafter.

3. In the meantime, I deem it proper to apprise you that Mohummud Ashruff, being probably aware of your opinion of his conduct, and of your intention of reporting that opinion to me, has anticipated your report of his proceedings by an arzee addressed to his Excellency the Vizier, in which he complains of your having threatened to return with your detachment to cantonments, unless he released from confinement, and delivered over to you, certain Zemindars and others belonging to the village of Amrooah, who were confined for arrears of revenue justly due to the Sircar.

4. A translation of the arzee in question is accordingly transmitted for your perusal, and with the view of enabling you to convey a satisfactory explanation of the circumstances of which the Aumil has complained.

5. I shall be happy with this explanation to receive a detailed account of the several instances of extortion, or exorbitant assessment, on the part of the Aumil, which are alluded to in your despatch of the 17th instant, and arzees from such of the Zemindars as may have preferred complaints upon this subject to you.

6. I take this opportunity of recalling your attention to the third paragraph of my letter of the 6th ultimo, having reference to the fortress of Gowra, which does not appear to be contained in any of the lists of fortresses dismantled under your authority that have hitherto been transmitted to my office.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
23d January 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee of Mo-
hummud Ashruff.

Translation of the Arzee of Mohummud Ashruff, dated 16th January 1811.

About twelve o'clock to-day Colonel Palmer sent his Chupprassie to me, with a message that he would march in the morning. I was sitting at the time with Roy Dyakrishen, and stated to him that the Zemindars and Talookadars of Ahmetie had not attended, and if I left the Elaka now it would be a very difficult matter to make them attend hereafter, especially as most of them were refractory. I therefore thought it would be advisable to remain two days longer, as by that period the whole of the Talookadars in Ahmetie would have attended, when we could take them with us and remove to Sooltanpore, where the settlement of both Elakas, Ahmetie and Sooltanpore, might be made. The Roy replied, that he also was of the same opinion; and I immediately waited on the Colonel, and represented the above circumstances to him, when he said that it was of no consequence, and that he would remain two days longer at my request. Shortly after a Bengallee and a Sirdar bearer belonging to Colonel Palmer

Palmer came in, and said to the Colonel that the affairs of the Zemindars of Amrooah had not yet been settled, though he had been brought away in confinement, and consequently that the Colonel was the cause of the ruin of this Zemindar. The Colonel asked me what they were saying; to which I replied, that about twenty days ago the Tufreekdar of Amrooah had given in a kabooleat for the sum of four thousand rupees, and though myself, Roy Dyakrishen, and Nowneith Roy, had admonished the Zemindar to liquidate this amount, yet he would neither consent to pay it nor cause the attendance of the Assamees to render his Elaka kham; consequently, that we were compelled to take a kabooleat from one of the Hissadars: but even now, if the Zemindar would give security for the just assessment of the lands, after being measured by the Ameen of the Sirkar, that we were ready to put him in possession. The Colonel admitted that this was very fair, and asked what more the Zemindar could expect. I then took my leave, and returned. About four o'clock P.M. the above-mentioned Bengallee and the Colonel's Jemadar of Chupprassies came to me, and said the Colonel desired I would send to him all the Zemindars and Assamees of the talooka of Amrooah whom I had brought in confinement with me, or else that the Colonel would return to cantonments. I replied, that it was not a matter of such importance as to cause the Colonel's displeasure, and accordingly desired my Chobdar to accompany the Bengallee and Jemadar, with the Zemindars and Assamees in question, to the Colonel's, and to tell him that, as I was convinced he did not wish for any loss to the Government, he might do with those persons whatever he pleased. The Bengallee answered to this, that I must not send a Chobdar with him, but might send him another day. I replied, that he had received orders to take the prisoners to the Colonel immediately, or else the Colonel would go away; why, therefore, did he not take them with him? I then ordered Culloo Chobdar to go with them; and the Bengallee said he would explain the matter to the Colonel. I desired my Chobdar to tell the Colonel that the prisoners were sent to him agreeably to his orders: that I had offered them to the Bengallee and his Chupprassie, but that they would not receive charge of them. The Bengallee and Chupprassie went to the Colonel, and stated whatever they thought proper. When my Chobdar sent in word to the Colonel that he was in waiting, the Colonel said that he had no business with him, and would not then see him. The Colonel sent for the Havildar major, and told him within hearing of my Chobdar to collect the Sepoys who were dispersed in destroying forts. My Chobdar returned, and related the above circumstances to me. I have never deviated from the orders of the Colonel, and yet he appears to be displeased with me and to act in this manner, on that account. I dare not lessen the amount of the kabooleat formerly given in, to the loss of the Sirkar, without orders, and therefore I await your Excellency's orders on this subject.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the foregoing letter do lie for consideration.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 9th March 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

In continuation of the subject of my dispatch of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which have since passed between me and the officer commanding the troops at Pertaubghur, with copies of the several documents which are referred to in those letters.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
16th. February 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
23 Feb. 1811.

Arzee of Mo-
humud Ashruff.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 March 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 March 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Sir:

I solicit the favour of your attention to the annexed translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, and I request that you will be pleased to inform me of the particular nature of the circumstances under which Mohummud Ashruff has urged the propriety of your halting in any Elaka, and you have thought it your duty to decline a compliance with his suggestion.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
30th January 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier, to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow. (Received 29th January 1811.)

Mohummud Ashruff has represented to the Presence, that Colonel Palmer is extremely impatient on the subject of marching from one place to another; and that although, on one or two occasions, in consequence of Mohummud Ashruff's representation that the affairs in the neighbourhood of his camp were not yet settled, the Colonel had promised to halt, yet again he seemed equally impatient, and could not be prevailed upon to remain.

As the settlement of the Elaka of Pertaubghur is now nearly completed, if the Colonel remain there a little longer, I make no doubt that the whole Elaka will be properly arranged; and therefore I desire that you will be pleased to instruct Colonel Palmer to regulate his marches and halts, for the future, as Mohummud Ashruff may suggest, and whenever Mohummud Ashruff may inform him that the affairs of any particular Elaka are completely settled, then and then only to march to another Elaka. In this way the affairs of each Zilla will be properly settled in its turn; whereas, in the case of the Colonel's hurrying on from place to place, what has been settled will again fall into confusion.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, communicating to me the contents of a letter to your address from the Vizier, in which his Excellency notices a complaint from Mohummud Ashruff, that I have, in various instances declined complying with his desire to remain in certain situations a sufficient time to enable him to conclude the settlement.

In reply thereto, I beg leave to observe to you that I have invariably halted a reasonable and sufficient period to admit of his effecting a settlement of the country, though I certainly had occasion to decline a compliance with his repeated solicitations for further delay, as conceiving that I should thereby unnecessarily postpone the execution of the line of operations prescribed to me, and which I conceive to be, in the first instance, confined to the capture and demolition of the forts and ghurries with which this country abounds, and to obtain possession of which the presence of the force under my command before them is indispensable.

I beg to call your attention to the obvious necessity which exists of my being furnished with positive instructions for my guidance in this respect, and defining the exact degree of attention to be paid to the desires and requisitions of the agent, Mohummud Ashruff, which has not yet been done. I am well aware of the necessity of the appearance of a British force, to awe the Zemindars into a compliance with even the most moderate and equitable assessments, and am most ready to afford every assistance in my power, but I am of opinion this object can be obtained by a detachment from my force to accompany and to remain with the agent, and I perceive extreme inconvenience from the constant delay

delay of the whole force under my command, in awaiting the slow progress of his negotiations, to the first object of the detachment taking the field, that of destroying the fortresses.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 March 1811.

I beg the favour of an early reply to my proposal to furnish him with a party which would be sufficient for his purposes, and to proceed myself into the Sooltanpore district, after having destroyed the places in this province which the advanced period of the season renders desirable should be done with the least possible delay. The whole detachment can be united and exclusively employed, should it be the pleasure of his Excellency the Vizier, in the settlement of the revenues.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

I take this opportunity of acquainting you, that all the fortresses of importance in this district are dismantled, and that I have received intelligence that the fort of Gowra has been completely demolished.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Madah,
2d February 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. The substance of your letter, dated the 2d instant, having been communicated to his Excellency the Vizier, I have the honour of transmitting, for your information and guidance, a translation of his Excellency's answer to my communication on that subject.

2. The explanation which you have given of the circumstances which were stated in the form of a complaint by Mohummud Ashruff, seems to me to be entirely satisfactory, and has been considered in the same light by his Excellency the Vizier.

3. You will, therefore, consider yourself as authorized to proceed to the district of Sooltanpore without any further delay, after the forts in Pertaubghur and Dalmow Barellic shall have been demolished, leaving only such a portion of your force in attendance on Mohummud Ashruff as may appear to you to be indispensable towards that Aumil's support, in concluding his settlements with the Zemindars on just and moderate terms.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th February 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.
(Received 8th February 1811.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter of yesterday's date, conveying, for my information, a translation of Colonel Palmer's letter to your address, suggesting the propriety of Colonel Palmer's proceeding to the district of Sooltanpore with the force under his command, for the purpose of demolishing the fortresses and ghurries in that Elaka, leaving a sufficient detachment with Mohummud Ashruff for the purpose of the settlements, &c., and requesting a communication of my sentiments on this subject, with a view to your issuing the necessary instructions to Colonel Palmer. Your suggestion appears to me to be highly proper; and you will accordingly direct Colonel Palmer to proceed to the Elaka at Sooltanpore, and destroy the whole of the fortresses in the possession of the Zemindars in that district, without any exception whatever. I shall issue my orders to Fuzl Alee, the Aumil of Sooltanpore, directing him to attend Colonel Palmer, on his arrival in the district, and to continue in waiting on the Colonel till the conclusion of the service in that district. From the constant attendance of the Aumil two benefits will be derived, viz., first, the regular supply of provisions, and of every article which the Colonel may require; and, secondly, that if any of the Zemindars in that zillah make false representations to Colonel Palmer, the Aumil will

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will ascertain the circumstances of the case, and report them in their true light to the Colonel. The Aumil will also state in a distinct manner the situation, strength, &c. of the several fortresses in the district.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Palmer.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, and I shall henceforward act according to the instructions contained therein.

2. I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the undermentioned forts and ghurries have been destroyed since my last report, besides six or seven others, the names of which have not yet reached me :

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Dummepore, | 9. Dewar, |
| 2. Moraine, | 10. Chandowke, |
| 3. Rampore, | 11. Sunpoora, |
| 4. Mudpore, | 12. Lubbeatpore, |
| 5. Botour, | 13. Meahendiah, |
| 6. Raypore, | 14. Tolah, |
| 7. Sunghgurb, | 15. Durceahpore. |
| 8. Ramgunge, | |

I have, &c.

Camp, Luckipore,
12th February 1811.

(Signed) S. PLAMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. In pursuance of the intention which was expressed to you in my private letter of the 9th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copies and translations of letters which have recently passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, on the subject of commotion excited and public revenue withheld by certain refractory Zemindars in the district of Tanda Mobaruckpore, together with a statement of some small fortresses or ghurries in that district which it is his Excellency's wish to have destroyed ; and a copy of a letter having reference to the state of the district in question, and of the adjacent districts of Akberpore and Dostpore, which I addressed to his Excellency the Vizier on the 12th instant, with a translation of his Excellency's answer to that letter.

2. The commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore, and the officer commanding in Akberpore, will both be instructed to consider themselves as under your immediate command, from the date of your arrival within the district of Sooltanpore, and during the period of your encampment in that district ; and the latter officer will further be directed to convey to you the most accurate information which he can procure of the state of the country in general, as well as to report to you, in detail, his own particular proceedings at the requisition of the Vizier's Aumil of Akberpore, from the date of his arrival in that district.

3. The communications of these officers, and of his Excellency the Vizier's Aumils in Akberpore, Dostpore, and in Tanda, will be useful in aiding your judgment regarding the measures which it may be expedient to adopt, for the subjection of the refractory Zemindars and reduction of the several fortresses in the three districts in question ; and I am disposed to augur the speedy accomplishment of those objects as the result of your judicious proceedings, under the instructions now conveyed to you, without any necessity for your advance with
the

the troops and battering train under your personal command beyond the limits of the district of Sooltanpore, which is the scene of your present operations.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
14 February 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 March 1811.

From His Excellency the Vizier to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.
(Received the 28th January 1811.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I transmit for your information the enclosed copy of an arzee which I have received from Mohummud Hoossein, the Aumil of Tanda, and I request that you will offer such suggestions on this subject as may appear to you to be necessary and proper.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee of Mohummud Hoossein, the Aumil of Tanda, dated the 24th January 1811.

Arzee
of the Aumil.

I have been honoured by the receipt of your Excellency's gracious shookha, dated the 16th instant, in answer to my arzee of the 11th, in which I requested that a detachment of two companies of Sepoys and two guns, with fifty sowars might be sent into this district, for the purpose of quelling disturbances excited by Jylall Mustoo Sing, and others, who were in a state of rebellion against the Government, and directing me to use conciliatory measures in making the settlement with those Zemindars, and in the event of the failure of those measures, to represent the circumstances to the Presence. Agreeably to your Excellency's command, I shall endeavour to make a settlement without resorting to coercive measures, and shall hereafter submit the result.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 29th January 1811.)

I have received your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, conveying for my information a copy of an arzee from Mohummud Hoossein, the Aumil of Tanda.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

If it meet your Excellency's approbation, I suggest the propriety of detaching the two companies which are now acting in the district of Akberpore, after the settlement of that district, (which if not already completed must be so very shortly,) to Tanda. But it is absolutely necessary, before I can issue any instructions on the subject, that I be furnished with a correct statement of the number and force of the refractory Zemindars in the district of Tanda, and a description of their fortresses, if they have any.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.

From His Excellency the Vizier to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.
(Received the 8th February 1811.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter, dated the 29th ultimo, in answer to mine of the preceding day, suggesting the employment of the two companies of Sepoys now acting in Akberpore, after the settlement of that district, in the district of Tanda ; and requesting a correct statement of the number and force of the refractory Zemindars in the district of Tanda, and to be informed whether they have any fortresses or not.

Mohummud Hoossein, the Aumil of Tanda, having sometime ago submitted to the Presence a list of the fortresses and a statement of the several refractory Zemindars,

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Communications,
9 March 1811.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Zemindars, I transmit a copy of that document for your information. After perusing this statement, you will issue such instructions on the subject as may appear to be necessary and proper.

Statement of the several Ghurries.

In Tanda eight Ghurries, viz.

Enclosure.

1st. In the village of Jelalpore, attached to Bypooreh, is the newly-built ghurry of Bhoolpore or Phoolpore, which has a ditch and bamboo fence, and is in the possession of Burear Sing, the Zemindar of Gowar, in pergunnah Sooltanpore, and is situated to the westward of the high road from Tanda to Lucknow, about five coss from the former place. Ten matchlockmen are constantly in this ghurry; and in cases of resistance they collect a great many men to assist them.

2d. In the village of Buchoopoor is Tendooa, a strong ghurry with a bamboo fence. It has been in the possession of Dulgeet Sing, the Talookadar of Chandapore Bidhur for some years; is situated about three coss from the fortress of Tanda, in a southerly direction. Five matchlockmen are always in this ghurry, and they can collect a thousand men to their assistance.

3d. In the village of Chanwan, the Elaka of Morad Khan Malgoozar, is an old ghurry surrounded by a ditch: on the west a bamboo jungle; on the south a deep tank; on the east is a dry tank; and near the ditch, to the northward, is a populous village. It is situated about six coss to the westward of the fortress of Tanda, and on the main road to Lucknow. Ten matchlockmen live in this ghurry, and they can collect about one hundred men to their assistance.

4th. In the village of Beharee Dch, the Elaka of Meer Hoossein Alec, (the Zemindar who has been appointed in the present fussy year 1218 to the kham collections,) is a very old ghurry. It is surrounded by a ditch and thorny trees. Two or three matchlockmen, servants of Hoossein Alec, live in this ghurry.

5th. In the village of Teekumparch is a bamboo enclosure, capable of making resistance. Within this enclosure Bhoojawun Sing, Bootakee Sing, and others, have laid foundations of houses. About one hundred men are in this place; and in cases of resistance, about one hundred more come to their aid from the village of Zeidpore, in the Elaka of Meyhouray attached to Akberpore, which is the zemindary of the above persons. They are principally assisted by Burear Sing Buntley Wallah.

6th. In the village of Sabekpore is the house of Busawun Mokordhun, within a bamboo enclosure and surrounded by a ditch. At the gateway, Pursun Sing Rhywar, an inhabitant of the village of Surwa Pergunnah Umsun, attached to Akberpore, with five matchlockmen, has a thannah. When they oppose the Aumil they can collect about one hundred men. This place is situated about seventeen coss to the westward of the fortress of Tanda.

7th. In the lands of Noor Mohummud Newaz Zemindar a new house has been erected, having loop-holes in the walls and two or three turrets capable of resistance. On the east-side of the wall is a large deep pit. Ten matchlockmen are constantly in the house; and in case of opposition they collect about one hundred men.

8th. In the village of Seylepore is a bamboo enclosure, in which Pershaud Sing, a rajpoot, the moostajer (or farmer), has erected a house, having loop-holes in the walls and capable of resistance. To the northward it has a dry tank, and is situated about three coss to the southward from Tanda.

In Zilla Iltefat Gunge, four Ghurries, viz.

1st. Kurumpore is an old ghurry in the talooka of Bursawan zemindaree of Sewa Sing, surrounded by a ditch. Near the ghurry, to the northward, runs the river Gogra, and a jungle of shao. A well is now making within the ghurry, with a view to its defence. It is situated about three coss to the westward of
Iltefat

Iltefat gunge. Ten matchlockmen live there constantly, and about three hundred men may be assembled to assist them.

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Enclosures in
Vizier's Letter.

2d. The ghurry of Dealpore, talooka Phoolpore, in the semindarree of Gainda Brahmin. The walls are very broad and strong, and it is surrounded by a ditch and bamboo enclosure. It is situated about one coss to the northward of Iltefat gunge. Ten matchlockmen remain constantly in the ghurry, and in case of opposition fifty or sixty men may be collected to assist.

3d. The ghurry of Amunpore, talooka of Alunpore, in the Elaka of Mohummud Alea Beg Chowdree, built in the fast year 1214. It is surrounded by a ditch and bamboo fence. The walls are of great breadth and very strong. It is about half a coss to the westward of Iltefat gunge: thirty-five men are constantly in this ghurry.

4th. The ghurry of Tullegurh, talooka Bhunsaree, in the Elaka of Sheo Golaum Sing. The walls are broad and strong: it is surrounded by a ditch and bamboo fence. It lies about two coss to the southward of Iltefat gunge. Twenty-five men are always in the ghurry, and in case of opposition about four hundred men are assembled.

In Zilla Mobaruckpore, three Ghurries, viz.

1st. In the village of Mohummudpore, talooka of Luswajee Loll Sing, of the Rujwahak caste, an old ghurry has been put in complete repair. Inside of the ghurry a mound of earth to the height of a spear has been piled up. The walls are broad and strong. It is surrounded by a ditch and bamboo fence. To the north and west is a jungle of plains. Seven matchlockmen reside in the ghurry, and can collect to their assistance about one hundred men.

2d. Busaroo Sing has repaired a ghurry in the village of Chundporee. It is occupied by eleven matchlockmen, who in case of necessity can gather one hundred men to their aid.

3d. In the village of Bojpoor is the house of Hurwee, by caste an Aheer, surrounded by a bamboo fence. Mustoo Sing, the farmer of Charjunpore, has recently driven the Aheer from his house, and dug pits in the bamboo enclosure and constructed batteries. Twelve matchlockmen are constantly here, and one hundred can be collected in case of opposition. Mustoo Sing sometimes visits this place. He lives in the village of Ashruffpore, in Akberpore, the Elaka of Ramzan Bukhsh, talookadar of Sumunpore, and sometimes he resides in Sabuckpore, Elaka Chandepore Bidhur, the talooka of Duljeet Sing and Sarroopjeet Sing.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 12th February 1811.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's two letters, dated the 8th instant, one respecting the march of Colonel Palmer towards Sooltanpore, &c., and the other conveying a list of the fortresses in the district of Tanda, which was submitted to the Presence by Mohummud Hooseyn, Aumil of Tanda, &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Agreeably to your Excellency's desire, the necessary instructions have been issued to Colonel Palmer, at Sooltanpore, for the purpose of demolishing all the fortresses and ghurries in that Elaka; and, as it seems proper that the refractory Zemindars, if any, in the districts of Akberpore and Tanda, be also reduced, and their fortresses destroyed on this occasion, in order to prevent the future demands of troops for the settlement of those districts, I have further directed Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer to take the two companies of Sepoys in Akberpore under his own immediate command, and to issue the necessary instructions to the commanding officer of that detachment, with the view, if it be possible, of obtaining

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9 March 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

ing the surrender of all the fortresses in Akberpore and Tanda; from the terror of the British arms in the vicinity of those districts, while Colonel Palmer is employed in Sooltanpore, directing, at the same time, the eventual movement of Colonel Palmer with the whole of the force under his command to Tanda and Akberpore, if indispensable, after he shall have completed the service in Sooltanpore. For the purpose of assisting Colonel Palmer in the execution of the duties thus prescribed to him, I request that your Excellency will be pleased to issue your instructions to the Aumils of Tanda and Akberpore, in the terms of those which have been issued to the Aumil of Sooltanpore, and directing them to depute trust-worthy persons to remain in attendance on the Colonel while encamped in the district of Sooltanpore, for the purpose of conveying accurate information regarding the state of their respective Elakas, and executing the orders which they may receive; and further, that your Excellency will be pleased to furnish me, as soon as possible, with a list of the fortresses in Akberpore, that I may transmit it to Colonel Palmer without delay.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.
(Received 14th February 1811.)

I have received your letter, dated 12th instant, in answer to my two separate letters of the 8th (recapitulate the contents). Agreeably to your request, I have issued the necessary orders to the Aumils of Tanda and Akberpore, directing them to depute trustworthy persons to remain in attendance on Colonel Palmer while encamped in Sooltanpore, for the purpose of conveying accurate intelligence respecting the state of their Elakas, and the several fortresses in them; and on Colonel Palmer's arrival in their zillas to wait on that officer in person, and procure the necessary supplies agreeably to the merick of the bazar, and, with the aid of the British detachment, to destroy all the forts in their respective Elakas. You will be pleased to instruct Colonel Palmer to demand a list of the fortresses from Gholaum Zamin, and to require a true statement of their situations, strength, &c., from both the Aumils, who will furnish those documents immediately, in obedience to the orders which have been issued to them.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my letter of the 14th instant, I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed copy of a despatch which I have this day received from Major Drummond, commanding the troops at Sooltanpore.

2. I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dated the 12th instant, conveying the satisfactory intelligence of the surrender and demolition of fifteen fortresses and ghurries in the districts of Pertaubghur and Barellic.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
16th February 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour to transmit to you a public letter received this morning from Lieutenant Griffen, commanding a detachment from the first battalion of the eleventh Regiment of Native Infantry in the Akberpoor district.

I have, &c.

Sooltanpoor, Oude,
14th February 1811.

(Signed) F. DRUMMOND,
Captain, commanding at Sooltanpoor.

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Consultations,
9 March 1811.

Letter from
Capt. Drummond.

To Major Drummond, commanding at Sooltanpoor.

Sir:

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the British Resident at Lucknow, that I yesterday received a visit from the Aumil, who told me he had received orders from his Highness the Nawaub to attack the forts of Paahpoor and Dhware, belonging to Iherawah Sing, and destroy them; after which, in the event of his not paying the rents due, he was to be turned out of his zemindary; and that the services of this detachment would be necessary to carry the above into effect.

I further think it my duty to inform you that Paahpoor is a small fort in the middle of a bamboo jungle, containing at most about thirty matchlockmen; but Dhware is a strong well-built fort, capable of holding about eight hundred men, nearly surrounded by deep nullahs, extensive and thick jungles, difficult of access, and about one coss distant from the Goomty.

Iherowah Sing has not yet complied with his Excellency the Vizier's order for retaining only one hundred of his followers. He still has about six hundred in his pay; and it is generally allowed that he could, on a short notice, raise from seven to eight thousand fighting men. The Aumil is further of opinion, that nothing can be done against Iherowah Sing without a larger force, accompanied with heavy guns, and which I think will be necessary to ensure success.

I have, &c.

Dostpoor,
12th February 1811.

(Signed) J. P. GRIFFEN,
Lieutenant, commanding a Detachment,
1st battalion 11th Regiment.

Letter from
Lieutenant Griffen.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 15th March 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed translations of letters which have recently passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me on the subject of a commotion excited in his Excellency's district of Jugdeespore, with a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the commanding officer at Sooltanpoor, conveying instructions for the suppression of that commotion and the seizure of the rebellious Zemindars.

2. It is worthy of particular remark, that the district of Jugdeespore is one of those which were long under the management of the late Almass Alee Khan, and recently farmed by his adoptive son, Mirza Jan; and that the present farmer, Hyder Alee, is the grandson of a person named Fyzoollah, who was treasurer to the late Almass Alee Khan, and is now under personal restraint, on a vague suspicion of his possessing some portion of the wealth of Almass.

3. That his Excellency the Vizier has in view the appropriation of all the wealth of Fyzoollah, either by the measures of personal rigour which are now practised against the unfortunate treasurer himself, or by the process of imprisonment and confiscation, to be hereafter pursued against his grandson for failure

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failure in his engagements as an Aumil, cannot reasonably be doubted; and that the supposed wealth of Fyzoollah, and not the capacity of Hyder Alee for the trust which is now in his hands, was the cause of this Aumil's nomination, is in my mind an unquestionable fact.

4. I shall not fail to take advantage of the influence of the foregoing remarks, in the course of my discussions with his Excellency on the highly important subject of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, and of the instructions of Government for my guidance, under date the 28th December.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
26th February 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier, to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow,
dated the 20th February 1811.

I transmit for your information the enclosed copy of an arzee from Hyder Alee, the Aumil of Jugdeespore, dated the 22d of Mohurum 1226. As the Aumil has requested that measures be adopted for the punishment of Fukeer Buksh Khan, Zubberdust Khan, and others, I desire that you will be pleased to issue such instructions on this subject as may appear to you to be proper.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee of the
Aumil.

The Arzee of Hyder Alee, Aumil of Jugdeespore, dated the 22d Mohurum 1226.

Yesterday Fukeer Buksh Khan, Zubberdust Khan, and other refractory persons, went to the residence of Sekunder Khan, Subadar, situated in the village of Purvizepore, under the pretence of celebrating the nuptials of his daughter, with the design of setting fire to the houses of all the Ryots in the village. On hearing of this circumstance, I set off as quickly as possible to Purvizepoor with the few Sowars I had with me, for the purpose of dispersing the rioters and giving encouragement to the peaceable peasantry. The rebels hearing of my approach instantly fled from that place, and I sent my brother, Ghous Alee, with the Sowars, in pursuit of them. On his arrival at the village of Kullianpore in Jugdeespore, he found the rebels prepared for battle; and on his nearer approach they fired several shots at his party, by one of which my brother was severely wounded in his left eye. The horse of Assud Oolla Khan was also shot in the breast, and another horse belonging to Noar Mohummud Khan was shot in the leg. Kootub Khan was wounded in the thigh. Hashem Alee, a Sowar, with his horse, and my uncle, Mohummud Alee, were killed in the action, and have thus sacrificed their lives in your Excellency's service. In consequence of the wound which my brother received, I have been obliged to return with him to this place. The rebellious conduct of those people has exceeded all bounds; and the other Zemindars of the district having so bad an example before them, have also become turbulent in the extreme, so that the whole district is in confusion, and the collection of the revenue at a stand. I therefore humbly request that your Excellency will be pleased to adopt measures for the immediate seizure and exemplary punishment of those rebellious Zemindars, and that a detachment of the British troops from Sooltanpore be immediately ordered into the district.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 25th February 1811.)

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow

I have received your Excellency's letter of the 20th instant, conveying a copy of the arzee of Hyder Alee, Aumil of Jugdeespore, and desiring that measures be adopted for the immediate suppression of the disturbances which have been reported to you by that Aumil.

As this Aumil is one of those persons against whose nomination to the charge of the district which he farms I took the liberty of remonstrating to your Excellency some time ago in earnest terms, on the ground of his unfitness for the office, and as there is every reason to believe that the disturbances excited in his Elaka have arisen from his own mismanagement, I leave it to your Excellency to decide whether or not the employment of the British troops on this occasion might, with apparent justice, have been delayed till a due investigation had taken place of the causes of those commotions: yet, as it appears from your Excellency's letter, that Fukeer Bukhsh Khan, Zubberdust Khan, and others, Zemindars of the above Elaka, have rebelliously opposed the Aumil, and killed and wounded several of your Excellency's subjects, I consider their punishment to be necessary; and, with this view, I request that your Excellency will be pleased to direct the Aumil of Jugdeespore to proceed immediately, or depute a confidential person, to wait on the commanding officer at Sooltanpore, and to furnish that officer with a correct statement of the number of the rebels in arms, the particular places of their residence, and a description of their fortresses, if they have any; when the commanding officer at Sooltanpore, in pursuance of my instructions conveyed to him by the accompanying letter, will adopt the necessary measures for the seizure and punishment of the offenders.

Your Excellency will further be pleased to transmit the accompanying letter to your Aumil, that he or his confidential agent may be the bearer of my instructions to the commanding officer at Sooltanpore.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Fraser, or Officer commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of transmitting, for your information and guidance, the enclosed translations of a letter and arzee which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, together with a copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to his Excellency on the subject of the commotions in Jugdeespore.

2. After receiving the necessary information from his Excellency's Aumil of Jugdeespore, you will be pleased to adopt such measures as circumstances may admit of and require, for the suppression, and, if possible, for the seizure, of Fukeer Bukhsh, Zubberdust Khan, and the other refractory persons who have been guilty of the outrage described.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th February 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 3d May 1811.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
3 May 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq, Secretary to Government.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. The discussions with his Excellency the Vizier, arising out of the instructions of the Government conveyed by your despatch of the 28th of December last, have now arrived at a stage at which it becomes my duty to detail them, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

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2. His Lordship's letter to the address of the Vizier was received from the Persian department on the 17th of February last, and was presented to his Excellency at the Residency on the morning of the 23d of that month. After hearing me read it to him with attention, describe the circumstances which had occasioned so serious a remonstrance from the Government in aid of my repeated and earnest advice, and comment on the justice and necessity of the measures recommended by the Government, as well as on the mild and conciliatory language in which the whole of the letter was expressed, his Excellency observed to me, generally, that he was disposed to acquiesce in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's suggestions to the utmost practicable extent, and added, that he would bestow the most deliberate attention on all the subjects of the letter, making his remarks on each, as he proceeded in perusing it with care, and would convey those remarks to me in writing, for my own consideration and discussion, before he should prepare his reply.

3. On the 2d ultimo I waited on his Excellency, by appointment, to receive and discuss the remarks which he had promised to prepare for my perusal, and I received them accordingly, in a document unauthenticated by his Excellency's signature or seal, but verbally avowed to be his, of which the enclosed is a translation. (No. 1.)

4. After perusing his Excellency's remarks, and making some cursory observations on the general tenor and intention of them, being desirous of putting him in complete possession of my sentiments regarding the several measures of meditated reform in his Government, and of explaining to him the details of those measures, which could not be explained at a conference, I solicited his Excellency's permission to carry home his remarks, and promised to submit my observations on them, in the form of an official note, with the least practicable delay.

5. On the morning of the 9th ultimo I delivered to his Excellency, at the palace, the document of which No. 2. is a copy, with a short letter on the subject of it, recommending the early adoption of the leading measures which I had described, and which appeared to me to require but little of his Excellency's consideration. Copies of the proclamation and other documents, which are referred to in my official note, and were subsequently conveyed to his Excellency, are also transmitted by this despatch. (Nos. 3 and 4.)

6. With a reference to the seventh article of my observations, it is proper in this place to apprise you, that a material alteration has been made in the language of a portion of that article from the terms in which it stood originally, and which I shall here transcribe for your information. "It follows, that your Excellency's consignment of those meahuls, under the engagements which are now pleaded, was in direct opposition to my advice, or in other words, to the counsels of the British Government, and consequently that your Excellency, in so consigning those meahuls, may be justly said to have committed a breach of your solemn engagements with the Honourable Company's Government."

7. On the morning of the 12th ultimo, three days after his Excellency the Vizier's receipt of my letter above referred to, with the official note which it contained, he sent a message to me by one of my own servants, importing that he had a particular favour to request of me, which should be conveyed by a letter in the course of the day, and earnestly begging, by anticipation, a favourable answer to his letter. A translation of this letter, and an English copy of my answer to it, forming numbers of this despatch, I shall not recapitulate the contents of them. (Nos. 5 and 6.)

8. On the 21st ultimo I received from his Excellency the Vizier, by the hands of a confidential servant, the truly extraordinary document, of which No. 7 is a translation; and immediately on the receipt of that document I addressed a letter to his Excellency in Persian, and in my own hand-writing, a translation of which is enclosed. (No. 8.)

9. In pursuance of the resolution which is announced in my letter of the 21st ultimo, I waited on his Excellency on the 23d, and commenced the discussion of
his

his replies to my observations, with an expression of my sincere regret for having consented, at his earnest request, to withdraw the imputation of a breach of his engagements with the Honourable Company, which was conveyed, on the most obvious grounds, in the seventh article of those observations, and appeared to be more than justified by his Excellency's subsequent conduct. I adverted to the want of proper formality and of due consideration for the British Government and its representative, which were manifested by his Excellency in replying to my public letter, and to an official note under my signature, by an unauthenticated document, transmitted in a blank envelope, without any address or superscription, and to which therefore, if his Excellency now avowed and declared his adherence to the contents of it, I must demand his signature or seal, for the purpose of conveying it to the Government, with such suggestions, on my own part, as the occasion justified and required. I entreated his Excellency to reconsider the serious nature of the remonstrance, and of the appeal to his justice and good faith, which were contained in the Governor-General's letter; and I reminded him of his original promise to deliberate on and discuss with me, in a grave and dispassionate manner, the several important points which were stated in that letter, in order that the result of those deliberations and discussions might form the basis of a satisfactory reply. I called upon his Excellency to acknowledge, or disavow, the obligation which he had come under to the British Government by the terms, if I rightly understood them, of the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession with Marquess Wellesley, and now candidly to declare to me whether or not, in his own judgment, he had fulfilled, or attempted to fulfil, the purpose of that obligation. If he had not, it was his obvious duty, I observed, to consider the present remonstrance of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, as a solemn demand of the fulfilment of a positive obligation on his part, by his adopting the plan of reform recommended to him by the British Government, with whose counsels he had engaged to conform, or by suggesting and carrying into execution some other plan of his own, which should be equally calculated to answer the purposes of that obligation, namely, to provide for the security and happiness of his subjects, and to relieve the Honourable Company's Government from the extraordinary and disreputable burthen of supporting by force of arms an unjust and oppressive administration.

10. If such were the nature of the remonstrance, appeal, and demand, conveyed by the Governor-General's letter, I begged his Excellency to reflect on the manner in which they had been treated in the document then in my hands. His Excellency, instead of declaring his cordial acquiescence in the general plan of reform recommended to him by the British Government, and of manifesting that acquiescence by an immediate and cheerful assent to the measures which I had suggested for his adoption, had purposely omitted to notice a few of the most important of those measures, to which no plausible objection could be found; had made frivolous objections to others, for the obvious purpose of protracting unimportant discussion, and procrastinating the work of reform; had stated some extraordinary assertions, the inaccuracy of which was well known, and could be very easily established; and had evinced, by the whole tenor of the document, which I now begged him to reconsider, a determined resolution to evade at least, if not to resist, the salutary counsel and advice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, conveyed to him in the language of friendship, and in the terms of existing treaties, which were equally binding on both, and a departure from which, on the one part, might exonerate the other from a responsibility essential to the existence of this Government, and to the exercise of his Excellency's authority. Was the document in question, I asked, to form the basis of his Excellency's reply to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter? Would his Excellency, on reflection, desire that the contents of this document should be made known to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, as expressive of the real sentiments with which a perusal of the letter had inspired him? And did His Excellency mean to persevere in the measures of rigour and injustice towards Khanazad and Tujummool Hoossein Khan, against which the Governor-General had remonstrated, in contempt, or in total disregard of his Lordship in Council's advice? If such were his Excellency's sentiments after hearing all that my sincere regard for his interests and a sense of duty to my employers had now dictated for his consideration,

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tion, his Excellency had nothing to do but to authenticate the document in question, by a letter under his seal, and thus to put an end to the discussion, until the sentiments of the Government should be known; for I declared my firm resolution of rejecting the document entirely in its present irregular form, and declining to make any written reply to it if authenticated, as being obviously intended to evade the fulfilment of a positive obligation, under the express provision of a treaty, which his Excellency had now for the first time been peremptorily required to fulfil.

11. Perceiving the impression of the foregoing remarks upon his Excellency's countenance, and being assured, after a short pause by his Excellency, of his sincere intention to abide by his engagements with the Honourable Company, as well as of his resolution to withdraw from the document to which I had objected all such expressions and remarks as I might now shew to be at variance with the intention that had thus been declared to me, I proceeded to the discussion of his replies in the order in which they are conveyed by that document.

12. With a reference to the conduct of Mohummud Ashruff and the other officers of his Excellency's Government, in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, I remarked that what his Excellency meant, if I properly comprehended his meaning, in the first article of his replies, as a defence of the conduct of those officers, was in fact an obvious proof of the justice of my imputation of neglect and improper conduct to them, in as far as his Excellency admitted that the scheme of a settlement which they had furnished, after a lapse of so many months, was unworthy of his own approbation, and had therefore been withholden from my inspection. That the frivolous nature of the excuses alleged by Mohummud Ashruff, and conveyed by his Excellency to me, for the delay in forwarding this scheme, had been fully exposed in my former letters to his Excellency, copies of which had been submitted to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and were alluded to in his Lordship's letter; and that, if such had been the conduct of Mohummud Ashruff, Diakrishen, and others, the select officers of his Excellency's Government, possessing ample instructions for their guidance, and supported by a large detachment of British troops, in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, no further proof could be required of the existence of some radical evils in the system of his Excellency's administration, and of the necessity of removing those evils by a total change of the system, in the manner which the Governor-General had suggested.

13. In his Excellency's second reply, I observed that he had purposely passed over in silence the two important and indispensable preliminary measures of reform, which were suggested in the second article of my remarks, namely, the division and subdivision of his dominions into departments and districts, so as to render them susceptible of efficient government, and the selection and appointment of Ameens with my advice and concurrence. That he had been pleased to announce to me, in general terms, the orders for the selection of Ameens which had been issued to his Excellency's sons, whose proceedings, under those orders, had been reported to me, through various channels, as exciting the ridicule of every wise and intelligent person in his capital; and that his Excellency had farther, as I conceived, with the obvious view of procrastination, required me to repeat to him in detail the qualifications of proper Ameens, though those qualifications were sufficiently described by the Governor-General, and amply enlarged on by me in my answers to his original remarks. That he had finally, in the article under discussion, declared his desire of restricting the deputation of Ameens to a few particular districts, which I should consider and represent as in a state of the greatest disorder, forgetting, or seeming to forget, that the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council had described the whole of his dominions, or rather the whole of the population of Oude, as labouring under a baneful and pernicious system of assessment and collection of the revenue, to which no remedy whatever, save a complete and radical change, could be applied with any prospect of advantage. Under all the foregoing circumstances, and with a reference to the 2d article of his Excellency's replies, it was now my duty to require a decided and categorical answer to the following simple question: Did his Excellency agree, or refuse his assent, to the division and subdivision of his dominions, in the manner suggested by me, and

and to the subsequent deputation of an Ameen to every district of the extent which was stated in my observations, giving previous information to me of the character and qualities of the Ameens, with the view of enabling me to judge of their fitness and capacity for the trusts which his Excellency might intend to confer on them?

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14. His Excellency, after some time apparently spent in deliberation, announced his assent to the two measures which are first above described, reserving for future discussion the proposal of my being previously informed of the character and qualities of the Ameens, and entitled to a voice in their nomination. This proposal his Excellency was pleased to describe as of a tendency to subvert his authority, and contrary to his interpretation of certain provisions of the treaties of 1798 and 1801. I replied, that I had frequently perused and considered both those treaties with particular care and attention, and could scarcely be supposed to have suggested, for his Excellency's adoption or assent, a measure contrary to the letter or spirit of either. That the advantages of the measure in question were, in my judgment, manifest and great, if not essential to the perfect efficiency of the new system of assessment in his dominions, and that I was fully prepared to support the justice and expediency of my proposal, with a reference to the provisions of treaty, and to every other ground of objection which his Excellency might be pleased to explain; but that I should willingly wave, for the present, the farther discussion of the question, and receive on a future day his written objections to that part of my proposal on the subject of the deputation of Ameens, which I should consider maturely, and answer, as I trusted, to his Excellency's satisfaction.

15. With a reference to the third article of his replies, I observed that it was totally anticipated by the drafts of the proclamation and instructions which I then held in my hands and presented to him; and that after perusing those drafts with attention, his Excellency's observations, in the third article, might remain, or be cancelled, as he thought proper.

16. The fourth article of the document in question I described as containing some extraordinary assertions, which I was fully prepared to disprove; but being unimportant, if not irrelevant to the general subject of reform, I should, on this account, as well as from motives of personal respect for his Excellency, pass them over in silence, and proceed to recognize, in the sixth article of his Excellency's replies, the only wise and satisfactory assurance which was conveyed by the document in question, namely, his promise of establishing an efficient police and courts of justice throughout his dominions, when the administration of his revenue should be reformed, a period to which I might now look forward with hope, and after which I should not fail to submit to him such suggestions as the importance of the subject required.

17. I then proceeded to the discussion of the seventh article of his Excellency's replies, every sentiment of which I declared to be contrary to those just and natural expectations, which were founded on the liberal concession that I had made to him in answer to his letter of the 12th instant (No. 5 of the present despatch). His Excellency had stated in that article, that the measures of his Government, with a reference to the districts of Almass, were in conformity with ancient custom, and had been pleased to infer from this statement a total want of title, on my part, to object to, or remonstrate against, those measures. For the purpose of repelling an inference so unjust, and so subversive of every principle on which the true relation between the two States depended, it seemed sufficient for me to quote to his Excellency the words of the Governor-General's letter, which his Excellency must have necessarily overlooked while committing the above sentiments to writing. His Lordship in Council had not only been pleased to declare his entire approbation of my remonstrance, in the strict discharge of my duty, against the particular measures in question, but had conveyed that approbation to his Excellency, with the grounds of it, quoted from the letter of the treaty of 1801, and of his Excellency's subsequent engagement with Lord Wellesley. The words of that treaty and engagement, as quoted by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, were, that his Excellency promised "to advise with, and act in conformity to the counsel of the Honourable Com-

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pany's officers," and, "to conform to the counsel of the British Government, in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of those dominions, and with the usual exercise of his Excellency's established authority." Was the adoption of an arrangement, I inquired, for the management of a portion of his Excellency's dominions, yielding an annual revenue of thirty lacs of rupees, a measure less important in his eyes than an affair connected with the ordinary government of his country, or with the usual exercise of his authority; and if not, could I, consistently with my duty, sit silent in the contemplation of such a measure, under all the circumstances which attended it, without submitting my opinion and advice; or could my right to advise be disputed? On the other hand, was it not his Excellency's duty, I asked, in the terms of the positive obligation above quoted from the treaty, to have informed and consulted with me, before he adopted a measure of such importance; and was not his failure to ask my advice, nay to comply with my earnest remonstrance on the subject of the measure in question, a direct infraction of the treaty of 1801, and of the subsequent engagement with Marquess Wellesley?

18. With a reference to the practice of former Residents, I observed that during the Government of the late Nawaub Asuf ood Dowlah, and even under his Excellency's administration, till the close of the residency of Colonel Scott, Vakeels or constituted agents, on the part of all the considerable Aumils, were in constant attendance on the Resident, who was in consequence duly apprized of the state of the country in general, and of the proceedings of the several Aumils. That the records of the Residency in my possession afforded numerous instances of the appointment and dismissal of Aumils proceeding on the Resident's recommendation: nay, that the chief Minister of the Government, in times by no means remote, had uniformly regulated his proceedings by the Resident's counsels, and had rarely adopted a measure of any importance without his previous knowledge and consent. That the relaxation in those salutary and becoming observances on the part of his Excellency, in latter times, could not, on any principle, be pleaded as a dereliction, on the part of the British Government or its representative, of a right established by treaty, as well as by the nature of the alliance subsisting between the two States, to interfere in the concerns of this Government, or to interpose their advice and remonstrance for his Excellency's honour and advantage, and for the happiness and prosperity of his subjects, when circumstances should require that interference; and that the urgency of the circumstances under discussion, with a reference to the districts of Almass, although his Excellency had pronounced those districts to be in perfect order, was such as, in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's judgment, to require his own direct interposition in aid of my remonstrance and advice.

19. In answer to the concluding remark of the 7th article of his Excellency's replies, I observed, that his implied reproach against me, by ascribing the present interference on the part of our Government to my suggestions, could be considered in no other light than as a proof of the conscientious discharge of my duty to both States, in having faithfully reported my proceedings at his Excellency's court, and the substance of our correspondence with each other; and that I felt persuaded of receiving from his Excellency's justice and candour, at some future period, the most ample credit for my motives in every stage of those proceedings and discussions, which had now excited his reproach.

20. On my concluding the discussion of this article, to which his Excellency listened in silence, and without the smallest interruption, he was pleased to express his intention of withdrawing the article altogether, if his doing so would prove agreeable to me; but I declined making any request on the subject, save with a reference to the particular words, "that you should have advised me to desist from it."

21. To the eighth article of his Excellency's replies, in which his measures of inhumanity and rigour against Khanazad Khan had been justified, on the ground of that person being his Excellency's slave, I applied a variety of arguments, having reference to the condition and services of the late Almass Allee Khan, to the uniform interference of our Government and its representatives in behalf of that Aumil and his dependents, and to the birth and condition of

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Khanazad, which were well known to his Excellency to be totally incompatible with a state of slavery; and, finally, I appealed, with apparent success, to his Excellency's natural desire of recovering some portion of the large balances of revenue which were claimed from Khanazad Khan, and which must inevitably be lost by his retaining that Aumil in confinement; since no degree of severity that his Excellency could legally inflict would ever induce Khanazad to surrender his personal wealth in discharge of arrears which were due by sub-farmers and other subjects of the Government; whereas, the liberation of that Aumil from confinement, and his concurrence in legal proceedings, or his institution of such proceedings against the persons indebted to him, might quickly enable him to liquidate his Excellency's just demands.

The further progress and result of my discussions, with a reference to Khanazad Khan, being detailed in separate numbers of this dispatch, I shall not here enlarge on them.

22. The conclusion of my conference with the Vizier on the subject of his replies to my observations had a reference to Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, his Excellency's assumption of which, I observed, had been supported on the most extraordinary grounds that could possibly be urged for such a measure. "Your Excellency is not inclined, (I remarked) to bestow lands in jagier, and therefore you have been pleased to resume, what?—the lands in possession of Tujumool Hoosein Khan, granted recently, no doubt, by yourself, and but for a time, or perhaps possessed by Tujumool under your Excellency's tacit consent, without a perfect or regular tenure: nay, the jagier of Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan, the father of the present possessor, conferred on him, for eminent services to the State, by your Excellency's predecessor, Asuf ood Dowlah, under an altumgha or hereditary grant, as complete and valid in every respect as your Excellency's title to the musnud, and recognized as such by your Excellency on the death of Tufuzzool Hoosein, under the guarantee of the British Government, in favour of his son and successor. Can your Excellency persist in this design? and is it necessary that I convey to you, in the words of the instructions in my hands, the sentiments of the Governor-General in Council, with a reference to this extraordinary measure, against which I originally remonstrated with an earnestness proportioned to my anxiety for your Excellency's honour and reputation? That the possession of lands in jagier by the subjects of any Government may be productive of public inconvenience, prejudicial to the paramount rights and authority of the sovereign, and even injurious to the good government of the country, is a proposition which I am disposed to admit, and the influence of which has been long felt and acknowledged in the Honourable Company's territory; but the resumption, on this ground, of a jagier in the possession of a faithful subject or dependent, under a valid hereditary tenure, without the consent of the Jagierdar, is a violation of personal property which no public necessity could authorize, and which the British Government can never acquiesce in, with a reference to Tujumool Hoosein Khan, or to any other Jagierdar holding lands in your Excellency's dominions."

23. A promise to restore the jagier in question, without delay, was now conveyed to me by his Excellency the Vizier; and he further requested me to furnish him with a draft of the several alterations which I required in the other articles of his replies; after which our conference broke up, and I took my leave of his Excellency, who appeared in perfect good humour, and reconciled to the result of our discussion.

24. In the course of the same day, after my return home, I prepared, and forwarded to his Excellency the documents, in my own hand-writing in Persian, of which Nos. 9 and 10 are translations. The subject and tenor of those documents do not appear, for the present, to require any remarks.

25. On the evening of the 29th ultimo, I received a short letter from his Excellency the Vizier, conveying and referring to, as authentic, his first amended replies, a translation of which is enclosed (No. 11.); and being greatly disappointed in my expectations with a reference to the amendments which are contained in it, I immediately sent a message to his Excellency, imparting my request

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request of another conference on the subject as early as might suit his convenience, to which he replied by my messenger, that he would breakfast with me on the following day.

26. At our conference on the morning of the 30th, I commenced with an acknowledgment to his Excellency, that all the important measures which I had suggested for his adoption, under the instructions of the Governor-General in Council, had been, with one exception, assented to, and that I was satisfied as to those points; but that his Excellency having been pleased to retain in his amended replies, the whole of the exceptionable arguments to which I had objected at our former conference, and the greatest part of which he had agreed, at my suggestion, to withdraw, it became my duty to repeat, on this occasion, the observations by which I considered those arguments to have been repelled, and to record the observations in question in the form of an official rejoinder, for the purpose of precluding future misconception or cavil on established or admitted points. As examples of the necessity of this measure, I referred particularly to the seventh, eighth, and concluding articles of his Excellency's replies, in the former of which the right of the British Government, or its representative, to interpose its counsels, or remonstrance, against a measure sanctioned by custom, however unwise in itself, or injurious in its consequences, is opposed on inadmissible grounds, and in direct violation of treaties; and in the two latter of which, though the principal points be conceded, the rights of property and resumption are maintained by the same untenable arguments. With a reference to the two latter articles, I remarked, that I had peculiar reason to complain of his Excellency's want of consideration, from the circumstance of his having requested me to prepare and submit drafts of the alterations which I proposed in their terms, and to which he had cheerfully acceded, as he had also agreed to expunge the highly exceptionable words in the seventh article of his replies.

27. His Excellency answered, to my surprise, that the insertion of those words, and of the arguments regarding Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, was to be ascribed to a mistake of his moonshee, which should be rectified without any delay; but that he still felt considerable reluctance to retracting his arguments and claim with a reference to Khanazad Khan, whom he viewed as the slave of Almass, and consequently as his own property. I replied to this observation in the terms of my letter to his Excellency under date the 2d instant, which forms a number of the present despatch, and I shall not recapitulate the contents of it.

28. We now proceeded to the discussion of the only unsettled point which remained, namely, his Excellency's refusal to admit of my participation in his choice of Ameens, on the grounds which are fully detailed in the second article of his amended replies to my observations.

29. On the general question of a right in the British Government to offer its opinion and advice regarding the selection and appointment of officers to stations of high trust and importance in his Excellency's administration, I observed that this right had been constantly exercised, and had never once been disputed, since the relation now happily subsisting between the two States was established; that it was founded on the very nature of this relation in itself, and was clearly recognized and confirmed by the spirit of the treaty of 1801, and of his Excellency's subsequent engagement with Marquess Wellesley, as well as by recorded instances in practice during the Government of the late Nawaub Asuf ood Dowlah, and since his Excellency's accession to the musnud; and that if his Excellency's obligation to conform to the counsels of the British Government "in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of his dominions, and with the usual exercise of his authority," did not imply an obligation to consult and to be guided by the counsels of the British Government, in the selection and appointment of officers to accomplish a reform in his administration, it could not, in my judgment, be susceptible of any other interpretation.

30. In answer to his Excellency's objection, on the ground that his authority would be diminished, and that the Ameens would be disobedient to his orders, if I should have a voice in their nomination, I remarked that this objection, if real, must be considered as equally applicable to every other measure of his administration,

nistration, adopted with my concurrence or advice, and had an obvious tendency to subvert the radical principle of the alliance subsisting between the two States, namely, the acknowledged dependence of his Excellency's Government and authority on the protection and support, which he derived from the Honourable Company's guarantee, and which necessarily required, on the part of the protecting power, a certain degree of participation in the counsels and acts of the other. That the particular degree of participation in the exercise of his Excellency's authority, to which the British Government was entitled, was so expressly defined in the treaties as to leave no room for cavil or doubt; and that the words of the several treaties which his Excellency had quoted in the second article of his amended replies, in as far as they had any application to the point now in discussion, were in my judgment manifestly hostile to the position which his Excellency had maintained, and which was further expressly controverted by the terms of his engagements with Lord Wellesley. With a reference to his Excellency's apprehension of the effects of a general knowledge among the Ameens of their appointments proceeding on my recommendation, I observed, that this apprehension should have been removed by the terms of the concluding article of the paper delivered by Lord Wellesley, in which the Resident was strictly prohibited from anticipating a disclosure of the result of any conference or communication with his Excellency on subjects of secrecy or importance; and that my practice, in particular, had been uniformly such as to preclude the smallest ground of apprehension in his Excellency's mind regarding a disclosure of the subjects of our correspondence, or personal communications, since it was well known to his Excellency that I depended less than any of my predecessors on the assistance of native writers, and that all my memoranda, or notes for conference, as well as most of my letters on matters of any secrecy, were written in the Persian language by my own hand. I then proceeded to comment on the advantages which were, in my judgment, likely to arise from our concurrence in the fitness and capacity of the public officers of his Excellency's Government for the important trusts to be conferred on them, advertng chiefly to the nature and objects of the change to be produced in the system of his Excellency's administration, namely, the adoption of such a series of measures "as shall be calculated, in the judgment of the British Government" (using the words of the Governor-General's letter) "to counteract the evils of the present system without injury to his Excellency's rights," and which obviously required for its success the utmost possible degree of harmony and unanimity between his Excellency, by whom the measures were to be adopted, and myself, in the first instance the judge of their adequacy to the objects in view. I recalled to his Excellency's recollection the rapid and beneficial result of the measures which he had adopted, with my concurrence, in Baraitch, and particularly his appointment of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to superintend the affairs of that district. I reminded him of my more recent recommendation of the same person to the charge of the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, and compared the proceedings of his present officers in those districts, the nature of our correspondence regarding them, and the state of the districts in question, with the proceedings of Hukeem Mehdi in Baraitch, the general nature of our correspondence on that occasion, and the actual state of Khyrabad and the other inehauls under the charge of this efficient Amil. I appealed to his Excellency's candour to decide, whether or not the whole, or the greatest proportion, of the unpleasant discussions which had arisen, and the injurious effects which had sprung, from his Excellency's measures in Sooltanpore, and with a reference to the districts of Almass, might have been saved and precluded by his previously consulting with me, or attending to my respectful suggestions on the subject of those measures; and, under these circumstances, being persuaded of his Excellency's cordial desire to avoid, and to guard against the renewal of such discussions, and the recurrence of such baneful effects, I trusted that he would cheerfully acquiesce in the only effectual preventive which appeared to be practicable on this occasion.

31. His Excellency continuing inflexible on the point of my participation in his selection of Ameens, though he declined to make any reply to my remarks, and declared the limitation of his objections to those which were already detailed, I considered it to be my duty to refrain from urging the point any further on that occasion, and expressed my readiness to submit my proposal, and his Excellency's

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objections to it, for the consideration and decision of the Government, before the proposal should be renewed. He answered, that I was, of course, at liberty to act in that respect as I thought proper, but that his reluctance to the measure was unconquerable; and as he considered me to be vested with full powers, if I wished to befriend him on the occasion, I would at once depart from the proposal, instead of referring it to the Presidency, where the decision would naturally be guided by the arguments which I might adduce. I replied, that this was by no means a necessary consequence, since we were all liable to err, and my opinions and proposals, if unjust or at variance with the spirit of any treaty or engagement contracted by the British Government, would not certainly receive its support or confirmation, however speciously they might be urged: but that the motive of my present proposal was one which could not be mistaken, and would, I trusted, be approved; namely, a desire for the accomplishment of the just views of the British Government, by a reform in his Excellency's administration, to his own eminent advantage, and for the successful conduct of the details of that reform, without any interruption of the harmony and cordiality between the two States, and particularly between his Excellency and myself, which it was alike my duty, interest, and disposition to preserve.

32. I then submitted for his Excellency's consideration and reply, a few questions, proceeding on the supposition of his choice and appointment of Ameens without my previous knowledge or concurrence, admitting the possibility of the acquiescence of our Government in this measure, for the purpose of trying its effects. Was it his Excellency's intention, I inquired, not only to exclude me from participation in the choice of his Ameens and collectors, but to keep me, as heretofore, in the dark with regard to the proceedings of those officers? Did he intend, as formerly, to convey to me detached and desultory papers and articles of intelligence, transmitted by venal news-writers, in the pay of his several Ameens, and to withhold from me every paper of importance or authentic document, on the ground that it had not been, or could not be prepared, or that he himself considered it as unsatisfactory? And did he continue to entertain the wish, or indulge the expectation, of receiving the support of the British troops to the proceedings and demands of his Ameens and Tehsildars under the new system, as to those of his farmers of revenue under the old, without satisfying me, or enabling me to satisfy myself, of the propriety and justice of those proceedings and demands? If such were his Excellency's designs, it was now my duty to undeceive him, and to caution him, in a manner the most solemn, against the fallacy of such expectations. The repeated and positive instructions of the Government precluded my compliance with any future requisition for the aid of the British troops till entirely satisfied and assured of the justice and expediency of the measure which those troops might be required to support; and I should be wanting in candour to his Excellency, as well as in duty to my employers, if I neglected the present occasion of announcing those instructions to him, and the necessity of a strict adherence to them.

33. His Excellency was visibly affected by the influence of the foregoing remarks; and after some further conversation on the subject of them, he took down, in pencil in his own writing, the terms of an agreement, with a reference to the conduct of Ameens and Tehsildars, which he promised to insert as a qualification of his rejection of my original proposal, declaring at the same time, with earnestness and apparent candour, that it was never his intention to withhold from me any information that I might desire, but that the conduct of his officers had frequently been such as to prevent his deriving or conveying satisfactory information regarding their proceedings.

34. With this observation our conference of the 30th ultimo ended; and on the 1st instant I had the honour of receiving from his Excellency, in a short letter of that date, the second amended paper of replies, which forms the 12th number of this despatch, and which being still extremely unsatisfactory, occasioned first my short letter to the Vizier of the same date (No. 13), a translation of which is enclosed, and afterwards, on the 2d instant, a remonstrance of greater length, in the form of a letter also, of which No. 14 is a copy.

35. His Excellency took two days to deliberate on the subject of my letter above referred to; and his confidential minister, Diakrishen, having now

returned from Sooltanpore, and being daily closeted with his Excellency, I had strong ground for suspecting that some further evasions were meditated, and that pretexts for those evasions had been furnished by the Dewan, and were actually under discussion.

36. With the view of counteracting the pernicious counsels and designs of this person, and accelerating the satisfactory conclusion of my own discussions with his Excellency, I waited on him on the morning of the 4th instant, and expressed my surprize and concern at the apparently unnecessary delay which had occurred in his bestowing official form and authenticity on those engagements which he had cheerfully contracted at our conference of the 30th ultimo, and had even committed to writing, with his own hand, in my presence. I reminded him of the long period which had elapsed since his receipt of the Governor-General's letter, and of the natural anxiety of the Government to be informed of his Excellency's sentiments and resolutions, with a reference to the important subject of that letter. I hinted at the strange reports which I had heard respecting the agitation of his Excellency's mind by the counsels of some new advisers, and entreated him dispassionately to compare the nature and character of their advice with the suggestions which I had conveyed to him, in the name of his best and sincerest friend, the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

37. His Excellency frankly avowed, that his mind had been greatly disturbed since the receipt of my last letter; that he had actually written an answer to it in terms which he disapproved on reflection, and had now resolved to suppress; that he trusted entirely to my friendship; that his engagements should be inserted as agreed on, and transmitted in the course of the day; and that every thing being now amicably settled between us, the pleasures of our hunting excursion would, he hoped, be free from alloy.

38. A suitable answer on my part put an end to our conference of the 4th instant; and in the evening of that day I had the satisfaction of receiving from his Excellency the letter of which No. 15 is a translation, with (No. 16,) its inclosure, the concluding number of this dispatch.

39. His Excellency the Vizier moved out of his capital to camp, at the distance of five miles, on the morning of the 7th instant, and I have this day joined, and had the honour of breakfasting with his Excellency, who appeared in high spirits, and received me with perfect cordiality.

I have, &c.

Vizier's Camp, Mundeeawn,
8th April 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. I.

Remarks by His Excellency the Vizier on the Governor-General's Letter.

Received 2d March 1811.

(First.)

The satisfaction with which I observed your Excellency's acquiescence in the judicious arrangements suggested by the Resident, with a view to the settlement of those districts on principles calculated to obviate the occurrence of those disorders which have so repeatedly required the employment of the British troops, and to secure the regular realization of your revenues, has been greatly impaired by perceiving the obstacles which the conduct of your Excellency's officers had opposed

to

I do not recollect that, with a reference to the affairs of Sooltanpore, I ever agreed to a proposition which was not carried into effect, nor that you ever suggested any measure that was not complied with; except, indeed, the proposal of sending Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan to those districts, which was set aside out of mere necessity, and from a consideration of the unsettled state of his own Elaka. You yourself have acknowledged that what you suggested was carried into effect, and that

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to the execution of the very measures which they were employed to facilitate.

I issued my orders to the Aumils in conformity with your suggestions.

I transmitted for your information the arzees which I received from Dyakrishen and Mohummud Ashruff, denying the exaction of any heavy assessments of the country. If you can produce any letters or written documents of mine, in which I first agreed to a proposal and then retracted my consent, be pleased to send them for my perusal.

(Second.)

And your Excellency further engaged always to advise with, and act in conformity to, the counsel of the officers of the Honourable Company.

With reference to this particular stipulation, the late Governor-General, Marquess Wellesley, in a paper which he delivered to your Excellency under his seal and signature, at the period of his visit to Lucknow in the year 1802, purporting to be a memorandum of the final result of the discussions between your Excellency and his Lordship, observed that your Excellency had engaged to advise with the British Government, and to conform to its councils, in the establishment of an improved system of administration within the reserved dominions, and also in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of those dominions, and with the usual exercise of your Excellency's established authority.

I am perfectly disposed to comply with the suggestions and advice of the Honourable Company's officers, and to adopt the measures which they recommend for carrying into effect an improved system of administration, to be executed under my own authority and by my own officers, in the terms of the paper delivered to me under the seal and signature of the Marquess Wellesley, a portion of which is copied below. I shall accordingly appoint Ameens; and after consulting with you and discussing the subject fully, whatever we may both determine shall be strictly adhered to.

Copy of the portion of the paper delivered by Marquess Wellesley, referred to above.

" His Excellency has engaged to
" establish within his reserved domi-
" nions such a system of administra-
" tion as shall be conducive to the pros-
" perity of his subjects, and be calcu-
" lated to secure the lives and proper-
" ty of the inhabitants. This system
" of administration is to be carried
" into effect by his Excellency's own
" officers and servants, and by his
" own authority. His Excellency has
" likewise engaged to advise with, and
" act in conformity to the counsel of
" the officers of the Honourable Com-
" pany.

" In the establishment, therefore, of
" an improved system of administra-
" tion within the reserved dominions,
" and also in all affairs connected with
" the ordinary government of these
" dominions, and with the usual ex-
" ercise of his Excellency's established
" authority, the Vizier has engaged to
" advise with the British Government
" and to conform to its counsels."

(Third.)

It would greatly facilitate the collection of the revenue, as well as increase

You will be pleased to state, in a distinct manner, how the real state and resources

crease the future resources of the country, if the assessment of the lands throughout the country should be regulated by the real assets of the several districts, to be ascertained by actual investigation, and be fixed for a certain term, and if that assessment should be increased only in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the several districts, which might be expected to arise from an improved system of administration.

(Fourth.)

The districts should be given in charge to persons of established and respectable character, and of undoubted qualifications. Their tenure should be extended and secured to them whilst their conduct should continue to merit the confidence of their sovereign.

Fixed salaries should be assigned to them, and they should be allowed to derive a profit from the augmentation of the resources in their respective districts: an augmentation, however, which should depend not on the over assessment of the lands, but on increased cultivation and population, which will be the necessary consequence of the introduction of a just and moderate system of administration.

(Fifth.)

The revenues to be paid by the Zemindars, Renters, and Ryots, should be fixed, on a full investigation of the capacity of the lands, by written engagements, which should be guaranteed by the State, and no more than what is specified in those engagements, should on any account be exacted from the parties.

(Sixth.)

The Zemindars and others with whom these engagements are contracted, should have the privilege of appealing to the authority of the Government against any violation of them on the part of the Aumils, who would thus be restrained from oppression and exaction; and a similar restraint should be imposed on the landholders and farmers, with respect to the engagements which they may take from others.

(Seventh.)

And those districts have now, I understand, been parcelled out to a number of petty farmers, without any reduction of the terms, and under circumstances which preclude the possibility of the due realization of the reve-

resources of the country can be ascertained.

You will also be pleased to state to me, where I can procure such persons of established and respectable character, and of undoubted qualifications, that when procured they may be nominated accordingly; but if afterwards they alter their conduct, so as to remove my confidence from them, you must also tell me where others, possessing those qualities, can be found, to be appointed in the room of the former, and how the qualities of men can be ascertained to my entire satisfaction.

You will be pleased to state, in what manner a full investigation of the proceeds of the several meahals can be made.

When I shall have ascertained, with your advice, the actual proceeds of the several meahals, I will then cause engagements to be taken from the Aumils, Zemindars, &c. agreeably to the tenor of the draft which may be furnished by you; and if any person act contrary to his engagements he shall be punished.

Whatever has hitherto been done by me, with a reference to those districts, has been in conformity to the established usage of this country, and after every practicable inquiry into the real state of the meahals; not a single complaint

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nue, without the gradual devastation of the lands and the ruin of the land-holders and peasantry.

have I yet received from any of the Ryots, nor has any discontent or disturbance occurred in the making of the collections: nevertheless, if it be determined, with or without a good cause, to alter the present system, I desire that you will point out such a manner of carrying this change into effect, as may tend to my reputation, to the increase of the revenues of my government, and the prosperity of my subjects at large, and at the same time may not be contrary to those engagements already entered into by me, so as in any degree to affect my reputation, or cause pecuniary loss.

(Eighth.)

I have another motive, also, for adverting to this particular branch of the general subject, namely, a humane consideration for the fate of the dependants of your late faithful servant, Almass Alee Khan, who were unfortunately led to undertake the management of his districts on terms which it was not possible for them to fulfil, and who are exposed to the rigours of confinement, and menaced with the confiscation of their property, for the liquidation of the balances of revenue occasioned by an immoderate assessment of the lands entrusted to their management.

On this subject I shall transmit particular instructions to the Resident, to whose representations, urged as they will now be under the express sanction of my authority, I entreat your Excellency's favourable attention.

As the Governor-General has transmitted particular instructions to you on this subject, whenever you renew your representations, I shall be prepared to give you an answer.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 2.

Resident's
Answers to the
Vizier's Remarks,

Resident's Answers to His Excellency the Vizier's Remarks on the Governor-General's Letter. Presented the 9th March 1811.

I have derived considerable satisfaction from the general tenor of many of your Excellency's remarks on the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, because they evince a conviction, in your Excellency's mind, of the importance and necessity of a complete and immediate reform of the system of assessment and realization of the revenue in your dominions, and a desire of obtaining information regarding the best practicable method of carrying that reform into effect.

As it is by no means my wish or intention to revive any former discussions of a disagreeable nature between us, or to suspend your Excellency's attention to the future important arrangements, by any retrospect of the past, I shall pass over in silence the remark with which your Excellency has commenced on this occasion, observing merely, with a reference to the conduct of your officers in the districts

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tricts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, that the scheme of a triennial settlement for those districts, which was the first and most essential requisite towards a just and beneficial arrangement for the future management of the districts, as repeatedly and earnestly suggested by me, and as often promised by your Excellency, has not even yet been produced; and that although both your Excellency and I have been frequently told by your Aumils, and by Mohummud Ashruff in particular, that a moderate assessment has been made, and an advantageous settlement concluded, or nearly concluded, in all the districts under his charge, neither your Excellency nor I have yet been informed of the jumma of any one estate or village in the country, nor has a single revenue paper, of any description whatever, been hitherto submitted by the Aumil, whose duty it unquestionably was to transmit copies of all the engagements of the Zemindars, and vouchers of the statements in those engagements, for your Excellency's knowledge and approbation, before the settlements were concluded.

In short, I consider the districts of Pertaubghur and Sooltanpore, notwithstanding all that we have heard from Mohummud Ashruff and the Aumils, to be at this moment, and after all the trouble which they have occasioned to both your Excellency and me, with the exception of the reduction of fortresses, which we owe entirely to the British troops, in a condition as far removed from good order and advantageous settlement, as they were in the time of Hoolas Sing. But the measures by which the future good order of not those districts alone, but of the whole of your Excellency's dominions, is to be restored and permanently established, are now in our joint contemplation, and to the delineation of those measures I shall therefore proceed immediately, and shall submit them for your Excellency's consideration, in the form of answers to your remarks.

Your Excellency, in the second of those remarks, has declared your acquiescence in my original proposals, that Ameens should be deputed to those districts, &c. (recapitulate.)

Before proceeding, however, on the present occasion, to the adoption of this measure, let us first consider to what places the Ameens shall be deputed, and what duties they shall be required to perform. It appears to me to be indispensable, that a division of your Excellency's dominions into four or five Zillahs or general departments, of proper extent, and then a subdivision of those Zillahs into districts yielding an annual revenue of from one to three lacs of rupees each district, be determined on and carried into execution with the least practicable delay.

Then let an upright and intelligent Ameen be selected for each of those districts; and when your Excellency shall have made the selection, be pleased to inform me of the name, and character, as far as known to you, of the persons thus to be employed in offices of so high importance, that I also may endeavour to investigate their characters, and submit my opinion for your consideration; after which let them be ordered to proceed to their districts, respectively, under written instructions for their guidance, a draft of which I shall have the honour of submitting for your approval.

In the third article your Excellency has doubted the practicability of ascertaining the true revenue and resources of your country, and has inquired how this is to be done, &c.

The investigation and ascertainment of the revenue form the grand and sole object, and will prove to be the happy result, of the deputation of Ameens, as I have suggested. The duty of these Ameens, as prescribed by the instructions which I shall submit, will be to assemble and conciliate, in the first instance, the Chowdries, Conoongoes, and Putwarries of the several districts under their charge, and then to require from those officers the whole of the revenue papers of every village distinctly, for a period of ten years, with the wasilbaukec accounts of the last and preceding years, and the scheme or register of the settlement for the year now drawing to a close. Those papers, after the minutest investigation which may be practicable, to be transmitted, under the signature of the revenue officers, to the Presence, when your Excellency and I shall consider them,

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them, and be enabled to form an accurate judgment of the real resources and assets of every district in your dominions.

In the fourth article your Excellency has desired me to inform you where intelligent and upright men are to be found.

The absence or deficiency of such men as your Excellency has described is, in my opinion, alone to be attributed to the unhappy system of administration which has long prevailed in your dominions, to the instability of employment under your Government, and to the danger of personal dishonour, as well as confiscation of property, which attends even temporary employment. When those obstacles shall be happily removed by the improved system of your administration, your Excellency will find many able and upright natives, desirous of employment in your service.

In the provinces which your Excellency ceded to the Honourable Company, a majority, if not the whole of the native officers employed by the British Government as Tehsildars, &c. were the subjects of your Excellency's dominions; yet they, having entire confidence in the Government, performed their duties with diligence, fidelity, and zeal, to the advantage and satisfaction of their employers. On the same principle, under an improved system of administration for your Excellency's dominions, your Excellency may be perfectly assured that many able and upright men will be found to fill those offices under your Government; and I will cheerfully take it upon myself to procure as many as may be necessary. The proofs of their capacity and integrity, if possessing those qualifications, will hereafter fully appear upon an examination of the documents which they transmit from their districts respectively to the Presence; and those only should be appointed Tehsildars, whose conduct as Ameens shall be approved of.

In the fifth article your Excellency desires to be informed of the means of ascertaining the real state of the mehals.

The real condition of the country will, I doubt not, be fully ascertained by the appointment of Ameens as I have suggested, and by their exertions in the manner pointed out in my answer to the third article, and in obedience to the instructions which I shall furnish.

Your Excellency has stated in the sixth article, that when, with my advice, &c.

The intention which your Excellency has declared in this article is highly commendable; but the views of the British Government, as hinted at in the passage of the Governor-General's letter, to which your Excellency has here referred, and detailed in his Lordship's instructions to me, are still more extensive in their nature, and far more beneficial in their consequences, than your Excellency would appear to have conceived. When a satisfactory settlement of your Excellency's land revenue shall be concluded, and when the appointment of capable Tehsildars in all the districts shall have taken place, the establishment of an efficient police, and of a court of justice in each Zillah will be earnestly recommended to your Excellency, as a measure manifestly indispensable to give complete effect to the salutary arrangements which precede, that so a separation and distinction of the department of collection of revenue, in all its branches, from that of the dispensation of civil and criminal justice throughout the country may take place; that the subjects of your Excellency's Government at large may have the gates of justice, and redress of grievances, open to them at all times; that the hand of oppression or extortion in the Aumils, and collectors of revenue, against the landholders and peasantry, may be restrained; that the just demands of those Aumils and collectors against the landholders and peasantry may be enforced, if necessary, by the regular process of the law, and the revenues of the Government may thus be duly realized; that the lives and property of the subjects may be protected, and the detection and punishment of thieves and murderers may be ensured.

Your

Your Excellency has stated, in the seventh article of your remarks, that your measures, with a reference to those districts, have been in conformity with the established usage of the country, &c.

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Although I have not heard that serious disturbances do actually exist in any other of those meahals than Jugdeespore, yet the ruinous consequences of the present system of farming are equally to be apprehended in all of them, while that system shall prevail : and on this principle it is, that a total change of the system has been so earnestly recommended to your Excellency by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, as absolutely necessary and indispensable, to remedy the evils which exist. That the suggested reform will be productive of those benefits, will serve to increase your Excellency's reputation, and greatly tend to the increase of your revenue as well as to the welfare and prosperity of your subjects, cannot reasonably be doubted ; and, with regard to your Excellency's apprehension of a breach of your engagements with your farmers, it must be sufficient for me to remark, that having originally remonstrated against those engagements before they were entered into with the farmers, having repeatedly and earnestly represented to your Excellency the ruinous consequences which they would produce, and the failure of my representations having occasioned the Governor-General's remonstrance on the subject, it follows that your Excellency's consignment of those meahals, under the engagements which are now referred to, was in direct opposition to my advice, and to the counsels of the British Government ; and consequently that your Excellency's adherence to those engagements, or refusal to comply with my suggestions of reform on the ground of them, would necessarily now imply (which God forbid!) a departure from your engagements with our Government. Under these circumstances, I leave it to your Excellency to judge which of the two considerations is the most important. A departure from engagements with those farmers, which were entered into contrary to my advice, or in other words, to the terms of your engagements with the Company, if productive of loss to the farmers, may very easily be repaired, without injury to your Excellency's reputation ; whereas a breach of your engagements with the Company may be productive of the most ruinous effects, and an adherence to those engagements must be beneficial in every point of view.

Your Excellency has stated in the eighth article, that as the Governor-General has transmitted particular instructions, &c.

The Right Honourable the Governor-General has left little for me to add to his own earnest intercession in behalf of the dependants of Almass. Your Excellency cannot but be aware of the nature of my original instructions on this subject, which were issued on the death of Almass (vide Chief Secretary's despatch of the 10th of October 1808). In pursuance of those instructions, I have repeatedly, and on various occasions, had the honour of addressing your Excellency in favour of many of the dependants of Almass, and more particularly after the death of Ruhmut Alee Khan in favour of his women, and after the dismissal of Khanazad Khan (Mirza Jan), on the subject of the adjustment of his accounts, and the recovery of his demands from his subordinate Aumils. Your Excellency having been pleased to inform me, on one of the occasions in question, and in answer to my earnest representation, that I had nothing whatever to do with the affairs or accounts of Mirza Jan, nor any title to address you in his behalf, it became my duty to report this discussion to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, who has been pleased to notice it in his Lordship's letter to your Excellency's address, and not only to approve my former representations on the subject, but to direct that the discussion be now renewed, under the express sanction of his authority, and be carried on to a satisfactory conclusion, by the equitable adjustment of the balances which are claimed from this unfortunate Aumil, so as to increase your Excellency's reputation.

Your Excellency will, I trust, do me the justice to believe, that I am by no means desirous of occasioning your Excellency's loss in the adjustment of accounts with your Aumils ; and my recovery, on a former occasion, by your Excellency's

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lency's particular desire, of the balances which were due by Almass, is a proof of the sincerity of this assurance. I therefore take the liberty of suggesting, that your Excellency, as on the former occasion, will now also be pleased to furnish me with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jan, and of the several exemptions which he pleads, that I may be enabled to form an accurate judgment on the case, and then to suggest to your Excellency what may appear to be most advisable for the recovery of the just dues of the Sircar. Your Excellency may be fully assured, that after inspecting the documents which you may send to me, and ascertaining the just amount of your demands, I shall be ready to support those demands with all the influence of my station; and that in the case of Mirza Jan's refusal to discharge them, I shall myself submit to your Excellency the justice and expediency of his renewed and still more rigorous confinement.

The foregoing are my detailed observations in answer to your Excellency's remarks on the subject of the Governor-General's letter. The concluding paragraph of that letter, however, which relates to Tujummool Hoossein Khan's jagier, having been passed over by your Excellency in silence, and I having, in consequence, at our last personal interview, not only submitted my own sentiments on the subject, but also conveyed to you, in explicit though delicate terms, the sentiments of surprize and concern with which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council had heard of the violation of rights, considered as under the guarantee of his Government, I naturally expected, as the result of those communications, that your Excellency would have ordered Tujummool Hoossein Khan to resume the management of his jagier. Disappointed in this expectation, I now most earnestly request that, from a consideration of the extraordinary claims of this family to the favour of both States, your Excellency will be pleased, without any further delay, to reinstate Tujummool Hoossein Khan in the unmolested possession of his jagier, as an act of justice on the part of your Excellency, which cannot fail to be gratifying to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council in the highest possible degree.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 3.

Proclamation.

Draft of Proclamation.

Be it known to the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, Putwarries, Cultivators, Ryots, and Peasantry at large of Pergunnah....., Zillah....., Soobah Oude.

That whereas the prosperity and happiness of my people must ever form the leading objects of my care, and whereas the present and long existing system of farming out the districts, with a view to the realization of the revenues, has appeared to be injurious to those objects, as affording to the farmers and Aumils the power of oppressing the landholders, and to the landholders of distressing their tenants, and others, the cultivators of the soil; therefore, and with the friendly advice and concurrence of the Honourable Company's Government, whose interests are identified with my own, I have now fully determined to abolish the system of farming for ever, and to introduce in the room of it a system of assessment and collection of the revenues, by which the landholders, cultivators, and peasantry, being secure from the unjust exactions of Aumils and farmers, may with confidence proceed in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, paying only the just revenues of the Government, without failure or delay, and be in no ways liable to the oppression, tyranny, or extortion of any farmers or Tehsildars; that thus the revenue and resources of the country may be yearly increased, the cultivation of the land be so extended and improved that in process of time no uncultivated land shall remain in my dominions, and that the frequent insurrections and commotions by which the landholders and peasantry are ruined, the expences of the Government increased, and general disorder excited, may now and for ever be at an end.

With

With a view to carry this system into effect, I have accordingly nominated and reputed able and upright Ameens into all the meahals of my dominions. These meens will immediately proceed to the several districts under their charge, here having assembled all the landholders, Malgoozars, cultivators, and others of the district, and having inspired confidence in their minds by apprizing them of my benevolent intentions, they will commence a diligent inquiry into the actual state and condition of every town and village in the mehaul. They will demand from the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, and Putwarries of the district, a true and accurate description of each village and estate, of its waste and cultivated lands, of the condition of its inhabitants and peasantry, and the causes of their actual condition. They will further require from those officers the several revenue papers which are specified in a separate list with which the meens have been furnished, and they will submit immediately to the Presence the result of their investigations, respectively, with the several documents alluded to, with the least practicable delay.

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You are therefore hereby commanded to attend the Ameen of your district immediately on his arrival within its limits, to confide in him as the servant of the Government, to convey to him every information regarding the state and condition of the district, which he may require and you possess, without the smallest partiality or reserve, and to produce and deliver every document which may be required by him without any hesitation or delay, being obedient to his orders in all things, and considering his favourable or unfavourable report, as advantageous or injurious to your interests. You are, at the same time, strictly prohibited from giving or offering to the Ameen, or to any of his deputies or servants, directly or indirectly, the smallest nuzzer, or bribe, or douceur, on any pretext whatsoever.

Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 4.

Draft of Instructions to Ameens.

Instructions to
Ameens.

Having been nominated to the office of Ameen in the pergunnah of, Zillah, you will commence the performance of the duties of this office with integrity and care, and act in all respects agreeably to the instructions which are here written for your guidance, assuring yourself, in the case of your able and upright discharge of the duties which are now imposed on you, that you shall hereafter be appointed a Tehsildar in some other Zillah or district, with a suitable salary and establishment, and that you will never be dismissed nor ~~moved without~~ proof of neglect, or breach of trust, or some valid ground of dismissal.

Article 1.

A proclamation, under the seal of the Government, addressed to the landholders, officers of revenue, and peasantry at large, of the district to which you are appointed, will be furnished to you before you proceed, and it will be your duty fully to comprehend and strictly to adhere to the tenor and objects of this proclamation. On your arrival at the sudder kutcherry of the pergunnah, you will cause the proclamation to be stuck up in a conspicuous place; and having assembled the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Mokuddums, Zemindars, Putwarries, &c. of the pergunnah, you will explain to them its benevolent and salutary intentions, and cause copies of it, in Persian and Hindee, to be promulgated in the several villages. You will also furnish a copy to each of the Seeghadars and respectable landholders of the district, assuring them of the favour of the Government in the case of their complying with its contents.

Article 2.

After performing what is stated above, the next and most important duty of your mission is to ascertain the real state and condition of the pergunnah committed

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Ameens.

mitted to your charge; and this can only be accomplished by your obtaining possession of all the revenue papers having reference to former years. It will, therefore, be your particular care to execute this duty with the greatest assiduity and zeal, considering the duration of your employment as dependent on its satisfactory performance. You will demand from the several Seeghadars the whole of the revenue papers which are specified in the schedule annexed: you will examine those papers minutely, and after satisfying yourself of their accuracy, you will transmit them with a statement to the Presence.

List of Papers to be required.

1. A list of all the villages of the pergunnah both aslee and dakhilce, under the signature of the Seeghadars, with a detailed statement of the jumma of each village for the last ten years, bearing the signature of the Chowdries and Canoongoes.

2. The-jumma-wasil-baukee accounts of the last and present year, viz. 1217 and 1218 fusly, comprizing all exemptions and deductions from the revenue, the names of the landholders, or farmers, with the names of their respective securities, under the signature of the Seeghadars.

3. An account of the assessment of the several villages as settled for the fusly year 1218, signed by the Seeghadars and Zemindars, with a teruj.

4. Jummaundee, or estimate, of the unsettled villages, with a khusra under the signature of the Zemindars and Putwarries.

5. Hesab-kird for the years 1217 and 1218, signed by the Seeghadars and Zemindars.

6. Copy of the kaboolcats granted by the landholders and farmers, attested by the Seeghadars.

7. A statement of the decrease of assessment of villages for the fusly year 1218, under the signature of the Seeghadars and Zemindars.

8. A statement of the increase of assessment of villages for 1217 and 1218 fusly, signed by the Seeghadars and Zemindars.

9. Detailed statement of rent-free, or exempted, lands and villages, as also of nankar villages and lands, and of ready-money nankar.

10. Established rules of durbundee and beggethce in the district, with reference to the land revenue and sayer duties, &c.

11. Detailed statement of the sayer duties, with a list of the several chowkees for the fusly years 1217 and 1218.

12. Statement of gross collections from all the villages for the fusly years 1217 and 1218, till the conclusion of the settlement for those years.

13. A mowazena, or statement of the number of begahs of every estate in the district, ascertained by actual measurement.

14. A statement of the yearly nuzuranah, bhait, &c., of the Aumil, and other officers under him, signed by the Seeghadars and Zemindars.

15. Itlak, or statement of tulbana, &c., exacted from defaulting landholders and farmers.

Article 3.

As it is obvious that the Zemindars of the country, possessing hereditary and valuable rights in the soil, are more likely, from an apprehension of the loss of those rights, to be faithful to the Government, and to pay their revenues duly, than any description of farmers, who, having no interest in the soil, do not scruple to embezzle the revenue, and to harass and oppress the cultivators, &c.; and as, independently of this consideration, it is desirable on every principle of justice, to maintain the Zemindars, and to make them responsible for the revenue, you will invariably keep those maxims in your view, and in no instance whatever, where the owner of the lands is to be found, will you transfer his rights to a farmer, nor commit any business to the latter which the former is willing and qualified to perform:

perform. In cases of disputed right to a zemindarry it will be your duty to investigate the claims, and to hold proceedings on the subject, transmitting the result of your proceedings with the sunnuds of every claimant for the final decision of the Government.

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Article 4.

As many mehals in my dominions are now under the management of farmers, and as they must have adopted their measures for the realization of the revenues of this year, by receiving and entering into engagements with the Zemindars and sub-farmers of their districts, taking security doubtless from some, it will therefore be the duty of the Ameens to inspect the engagements in question, and to enforce the payment of the just demands of the Aumils, agreeably to the kaboolat and Puttah, transmitting copies of those documents to the Presence, with regular accounts of the payments, under the signature of the Seeghars; and it is further particularly desirable, that no just balances of revenue should remain after the close of the month of Jeith, or at all events after the end of Assaur 1218, when the collections of this year must terminate.

Article 5.

As a triennial settlement of the whole of the mehals in my dominions has been resolved on, to commence with the ensuing fusly year 1219, so as to provide for the security of the landholders against any additional assessment till the end of the stipulated time, and also to secure to the cultivator the fair profits of his industry, under engagements entered into with the landholder, for the full term of the settlement, so that confidence and security may be established, in regular gradation, from the Government to the cultivator of the soil; with the view of carrying this settlement into effect, you are required, in the beginning of the month of Assaur, when the Zemindars shall be finally relieved from the demands of the present Aumils, and their lands shall be freed from the visits of Peadehs enforcing those demands, to commence a personal tour and inspection of the district, taking with you some intelligent person well acquainted with the state of the country, either a Chowdry, Canoongoe, or Mirdaha, and to visit every village and estate, observing as minutely as possible the quantity and quality of the lands, both cultivated and waste, the condition and character of the landholders, Mokuddums, and cultivators, comparing their assets and means with the amount of the present jumma, encouraging them in the improvement of their lands, and placing proper persons in each village to superintend the progress of the cultivation: ascertaining further the necessity of Tuckavee (for which if necessary, and hereafter granted to the Ryots, their bonds, with proper security, payable at the end of Aghun, with interest at the rate of twelve per cent, and obligations for the cultivation of their lands, are to be taken, agreeably to a prescribed form). By these means, when the period for the triennial settlement shall arrive, the country will be in a proper condition, the true assets of every estate will be easily and satisfactorily ascertained, the Zemindars will have no pretext for resisting a fair settlement of the revenues, and no loss will arise to the Sircar. Instructions for concluding the settlement will be issued in due time from the Presence.

Article 6.

A monthly allowance will be granted to you and your deputy, and other officers, at the rate of per lac of rupees of the jumma, to commence from the date of your appointment and continue till the end of Bhadoon, when your duty as an Ameen will terminate; after which, if your conduct be approved of, you shall be appointed to the office of Tehsildar, with a suitable salary and establishment. The appointment of your subordinate officers in the station of Ameen and Tehsildar will be left at your own discretion, and their allowances may be fixed by yourself. But you are hereby strictly prohibited from demanding, or receiving for yourself, or for any of your deputies or other subordinate officers, and from admitting of their receiving, directly or indirectly, any nuzers, bribes, or douceurs, from the Zemindars, Malgoozars, or Ryots, upon any pretext whatsoever, and under the certain and unavoidable penalty of severe

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and exemplary punishment, in addition to dismissal from office without the hope of future employment.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 5.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 12th March 1811.)

In your answer to the seventh article of my remarks on the Governor-General's letter, you have stated that my consignment of those melahs to the persons in question was in direct opposition to your advice, and to that of the British Government, and consequently that I might be said to have committed a breach of my engagements with the Honourable Company, &c.

The perusal of those expressions has occasioned the greatest distress and uneasiness to my mind. As I consider the introduction of such expressions into any of your letters as fraught with the most injurious consequences to myself, and totally unnecessary on this occasion, I return your official note, and beg of you, for the friendship subsisting between us, and with the view of relieving my mind, to withdraw the expressions in question, and send back your paper of remarks to me with the alteration which I require in its terms. A breach of engagement with the British Government was never, and can never be, in my thoughts. When you send back your remarks with the prescribed alteration you will also return this letter.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 6.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 12th March 1811.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of this date. Being ever desirous of complying with your Excellency's wishes to the utmost practicable extent, I am perfectly ready to gratify you on the present occasion, by withdrawing the expressions which you object to, although I applied them after mature deliberation, provided that, by doing so, the accomplishment of the just objects of the British Government shall not be prevented or delayed.

I have accordingly made an alteration in the language of the seventh article of my remarks, which though it still serve to convey my decided and unalterable sentiments on the measure to which it has reference, will, I trust, be approved by your Excellency, as greatly softened in the manner.

Your Excellency's letter is also returned with the paper of remarks agreeably to your desire.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 7.

The Vizier's
Replies to the
Resident's Answers.

Replies by His Excellency the Vizier to the Resident's Answers. (Received the 21st March 1811.)

With regard to what you have stated in the first of these answers, namely, "that the scheme of a settlement for the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, which was the first and most essential requisite towards a beneficial arrangement," &c.

The case is this : that the causes of the delay in transmitting a perfect scheme of a settlement for the districts in question have already been explained to you, and that the non-arrival of a perfect scheme can only be ascribed to some of those

those causes. In the scheme which I received from the Aumils, it is written that a correct statement of diminution and increase in the jumma would be afterwards furnished when the real assets were ascertained. I did not myself consider that scheme as satisfactory, and accordingly told you so at one of our personal interviews. A document, therefore, which was considered as incorrect by myself, for what purpose should I send it to you? With respect, again, to your observation of our not having received the jumma-bundy of any one village or estate; if a perfect scheme of the settlement had arrived, the jumma-bundy would have doubtless been contained in it: and with regard to your remark, that "notwithstanding Mohummud Ashruff's and the other Aumil's "representations," &c.; every paper conveying information of the conclusion, or approaching conclusion, of the settlement of those districts, which I have received, copies of them have invariably been sent to you, because it is not my wish or desire to conceal any thing from you.

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Replies to the
Resident's Answers

In the second article you have stated, that "it is first necessary to consider "to what places the Ameens shall be deputed, and what duties they shall be "required to perform."

On the 18th Suffer 1226 (15th March 1811), I issued orders to my beloved sons, Shums-ood Dowlah and Nuseer-ood Dowlah, and to other officers, to search for and procure some upright and able candidates for the situation of Ameens, who shall first be sent to those Elakas which you consider as in an unsettled state. The draft of instructions which you furnish shall first be discussed between us. Such parts as I may not approve or understand, after consulting with you, shall be withdrawn from it, and final instructions shall then be prepared and delivered to the Ameens, with orders to pay strict attention to them. But you must first detail to me the necessary qualifications of Ameens, that persons so qualified may be selected. In short, the Ameens must be chosen and appointed by me; and with regard to the instructions to be furnished to them, those shall be determined on by mutual consent, and executed under my orders.

In the third answer you have stated, that "the duty of those Ameens will "be to require from the Chowdries, Canoongoes, and Putwarries, the whole of "the revenue papers," &c.

I shall issue my orders to the Ameens agreeably to what you have suggested; but I recommend that this measure be carried into effect by actual measurement of the cultivated and waste lands, and of lands capable of being cultivated, in which case the exact measurement of the lands, as well as the amount of the jumma, will be ascertained, and the boundaries of villages will also be fixed, so as to preclude future claims or disputes among the Zemindars on questions of unsettled boundary.

In the fourth answer you have stated, that "the deficiency of men of abilities "is," in your opinion, "alone to be attributed to the present system of adminis- "tration in my dominions, to the instability of employment under my Govern- "ment, and to the danger of personal dishonour," &c.

I have never broken my engagements nor retracted my promise in any way, so as to create want of confidence in the people: on the contrary, many of the Aumils have broken their engagements with my Government, and I have knowingly put up with the loss and released them from confinement. With regard to those who are still confined, I have frequently required them, in the first instance, to liquidate their arrears agreeably to the statements prepared by my officers, and afterwards to their own statements, giving credit for all their claims, nay for more than they could justly require; yet, destitute of shame as well as honesty, they still retain the just dues of the Sircar.

You suggest that "such Ameens as shall perform their duties properly shall here- "after be appointed Tehsildars." But, in this case, if the Ameens be previously informed, that after ascertaining the jumma of their Elakas and transmitting the revenue papers for ten years, with the wasil-baukee accounts, to the Presence, they will be appointed to the office of Tehsildar, it is probable that, for their own future advantage, they will knowingly lower the jumma and state a less than the real amount. I therefore think it would be more advisable to
separate

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separate the two offices entirely ; or, at all events, that no Ameen shall be appointed Tehsildar in the Zillah in which he may have acted as Ameen. In this latter mode the Ameens who are found to be deserving may still be rewarded, and the opportunity for fraud may be prevented.

In the sixth article you have stated, that " the views of the British Government, as hinted at in the Governor-General's letter to my address," &c.

After the new system of assessment and administration of the revenue shall be carried into effect, an efficient police, and a court of justice, as recommended by the Governor-General and by you, shall also be established by my orders.

In answer to the seventh article you have stated, that " to remedy the evils which at present exist, a total change of the system has been earnestly recommended to me by the Governor-General," &c.

What the Governor-General has recommended shall certainly be carried into effect. It is, of course, my particular desire, that the population of the country be increased, the happiness and prosperity of my subjects be provided for, that present or future loss of revenue to the Sircar be effectually guarded against, and that the revenues should yearly increase. If those objects can be accomplished by the change of the present system, it is well, and I have no objection whatever.

With regard to what you have stated, that " my apprehension of a breach of my engagements," &c.

Praise be to God, that as yet no breach of engagement has ever been committed by me, nor can any take place hereafter. I have not, on the present occasion, done any thing unprecedented or new, that you should have advised me to desist from it. What I have done was in perfect conformity with the long-established usage of the country, against which no Resident at this court had ever hitherto remonstrated ; and thanks be to God, that no bad effects have hitherto arisen from the measures. Neither would any objection have been made in Calcutta to those measures, if you had not written on the subject : but your representations have, of course, occasioned what has happened. It matters not : you will now consider me as intent on carrying the new system into execution.

In the eighth article you have requested me to furnish you with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jan, and of the several exemptions which he pleads, &c.

Khanazad Khan and his property were the property of Almass, and Almass himself belonged to me, consequently Khanazad too is my property, and you have no right to interfere. My intention towards Mirza Jan shall be communicated to you hereafter.

The conclusion of the eighth article of your observations relates to Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, &c.

I am not inclined to bestow lands in jagier, because but a small portion of my territory now remains in my possession ; and if I continue to distribute this by little and little to jagierdars, I shall by and bye have no authority whatever. Further, as I have no intention whatever with a reference to this jagier but the preservation of my own authority over it, and the clear revenue, after deduction of expences, will still be paid to the Khan, why not permit the jagier, as at present, to be managed by the Aumil of the Sircar, so that no loss may be sustained by the Khan ? My authority over the lands may be maintained, and disputes between the Ryots of the khalsa and jagier may be prevented.

With respect to my transferring the jagier to an Aumil of my own selection without having previously consulted you on the subject. The case is this ; the jagier has not been transferred to any new Aumil, but still remains in the hands of the person to whom it was formerly consigned, with the

the entire consent of the jaghierdar : in addition to all which you may recollect that I mentioned to you on a former occasion, my desire of including the jagier of Mudar-ood-Dowlah in the khalsa, for the reasons which are here stated.

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Consultations,
3 May 1811.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 8.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 21st March 1811, in Persian,
and by the Resident's hand.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

On my receipt of your Excellency's message by Ameer Hyder the day before yesterday, importing that your replies to my observations were nearly finished, and that procrastination was by no means your object, I had intended to submit to your Excellency, that as my observations contained little else than an explanatory detail of the subjects of the Governor-General's letter, a reply to them seemed to me to be unnecessary, and that an answer from your Excellency to his Lordship's letter, announcing the occupation of your mind in giving effect to the system which he had recommended, and your acquiescence in the two concluding points of his letter, namely, the just and moderate settlement of your Excellency's demand against Mirza Jan, and the restoration of Tujummool Hoosein Khan's jagier, appeared to me to be all that was required on your Excellency's part for the present.

I was accordingly occupied in preparing a letter for your Excellency to the foregoing effect, when a paper, containing your replies to my observations, was just now put into my hands by your Excellency's servant, Sooruj Bhan. It is impossible to describe to your Excellency the degree of surprize and concern with which I have perused and reflected on the contents of this extraordinary document. I shall not, for the present, convey to you the answer which it appears to require, because I am unwilling to place upon record the sentiments with which it has inspired me, without an obvious and established necessity that I trust will never occur ; and, therefore, on Saturday next, I shall have the honour of waiting on your Excellency, to explain those sentiments in person, to submit for your serious consideration what appears to me to be indispensable towards preserving and strengthening the bonds of amity between the two States, and to convey to you more explicitly than I have hitherto done, the instructions with which I have been honoured by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 9.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written in Persian, in the Resident's hand,
23d March 1811.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

In compliance with your Excellency's desire at our conference of this morning, I have prepared, and have the honour of transmitting to you, the enclosed draft of the terms of the three articles of your replies to my observations, which were proposed and agreed to be substituted in the room of those to which I objected, and which your Excellency agreed to withdraw.

With a reference to the only important article of the document in question which still remains unadjusted, namely, the selection and appointment of Ameens with my previous knowledge and concurrence, as your Excellency has been pleased to resist my earnest and repeated suggestions of the propriety and eminent advantages of this truly salutary measure, it only remains for me to request that you will detail the grounds of your dissent to this important proposition

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proposition, in your answer to the Governor-General's letter, or in a letter to my address, as was determined on at our conference in the morning.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 10.

Draft Replies.

Draft of Replies.

Article Second.

In conformity with your suggestions, a division and subdivision of my dominions shall be carried into immediate effect, and for this purpose Roy Dyakrishen has already been summoned to the Presence, that the situation and extent of the several Zillahs and mehauls, and the amount of the jumma of each, may be ascertained from the records in his possession, after which, Ameens, possessing all the qualities, if possible, which are described in the Governor-General's letter, and in your remarks, shall be deputed to *all* the mehauls, and the instructions, proclamations, &c., drafts of which have been submitted by you, with such alterations as on discussion we may mutually agree to, shall be furnished to all the Ameens.

Article Eighth.

In compliance with the wishes of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the rigorous measures which have been hitherto adopted, with a reference to Khanazad Khan, shall immediately cease, and a statement of the just balances against him shall be sent for your investigation.

Concluding Paragraph of the Eighth Article.

Although no injury nor loss could, in my opinion, arise to Tujummool Hoosein Khan, from committing the management of his jagier to an Aumil of my selection, yet, in compliance with the Governor-General's desire, the jagier shall be restored to the Khan.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 11.

Amended Replies. *Amended Replies from His Excellency the Vizier. (Received 29th March 1811.)*

Article 1.

The same in sense as before, with a trifling alteration in the words:

Article 2.

In the second article you have stated, that "it is first necessary to consider "to what places the Ameens shall be deputed," &c.

On the 18th of Saffer 1226, I issued orders to my beloved sons, Shums-ood Dowlah and Nusseer-ood Dowlah, and to the other officers of my Government, to search for and procure some upright and able candidates for the situation of Ameens. The draft of instructions to the Ameens which you have furnished shall be attentively perused. Such parts as I may not approve, after consulting with you, shall be withdrawn from it, and final instructions shall then be prepared and delivered to the Ameens; and such division and subdivision of my dominions as you shall suggest, after discussion between us, shall be carried into immediate effect under my authority and by my officers, and for this purpose Roy Dyakrishen has already been summoned to the Presence, that the situation and extent of the several Zillahs and mehauls, and the amount of the jumma of each, may be ascertained from the records in his possession, after which the division and subdivision shall take place, and Ameens possessing the qualities which are described in the Governor-General's letter shall be deputed

deputed by me to all the meahals. In short, the Ameens must be chosen and appointed by me, and the whole system must be established under my authority and by my officers with your advice. But the mode which you have suggested for the appointment of Ameens cannot be acceded to by me, because, in that case, it would be necessary that, after selecting proper persons for the office, I should write to you to inform me who should be appointed and who should not be appointed. You will naturally approve of some and reject others, and I should be obliged to comply with your suggestions on this point: hence it is obvious, that the selection and appointment, or rejection of the Ameens, would proceed under your authority, and that I should have no further power nor authority in the matter, but merely those of informing you and requiring your consent; and this circumstance being generally known, not one of the Ameens would be obedient to my orders nor regard my authority. I can never, therefore, consent to the appointment of Ameens in a manner which would diminish my authority, more particularly as it is stipulated in the concluding part of the seventeenth article of the treaty concluded with the British Government in the time of Sir John Shore, that "I shall possess full authority over my household affairs, hereditary dominions, my troops and my subjects;" and in the sixth article of the treaty of cession it is stated, "that the Honourable the East-India Company thereby guarantee to me, my heirs and successors, the possession of the territories which will remain after the territorial cession, together with the exercise of my and their authority within the said dominions; and I engage always to advise with, and act in conformity to the counsel of the officers of the said Honourable Company."

Bengal Political
Consultations,
3 May 1811.
Amended Replies.

Articles 3, 4, 6, and 7.

The same as before.

Article 8.

In the eighth article you have requested me to furnish you with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jan, and of the several exemptions which he pleads, &c.

Khanazad Khan and his property were the property of Almass, and Almass himself belonged to me; consequently Khanazad too is my property, and you have no right to interfere. But in compliance with the wishes of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which it is my duty and my inclination to attend to, the troopers and others placed over Khanazad Khan have been withdrawn, and two chupprassies only are over him.

A statement of the just balances against him shall be sent for your investigation.

Concluding Paragraph of the Eighth Article.

The same as before, with an addition of these words: "Yet, in compliance with the Governor-General's desire, the jagier shall be restored to the Khan."

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 12.

Second amended Paper of Replies from His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 1st April 1811.)

Second
Amended Replies.

Article 1.

Exactly as before.

Article 2.

Also the same.

Article 3.

The same as in the first paper of replies, with the following addition: "And the Ameens having proceeded to their respective Elakas, all papers and documents relative to the scheme of settlement, and of every other nature whatever, which they may transmit to the Presence, shall be submitted to your investigation,"

Bengal Political
Consultations,
3 May 1811.

Second
Amended Replies.

“ gation, and copies of them shall be furnished for that purpose ; after which,
“ if the papers or proceedings of any Ameen shall appear to you to be
“ improper, and you satisfy me of the impropriety of his proceedings, that
“ Ameen shall be immediately dismissed, and another person shall be selected
“ by me to succeed him. But if the proceedings and papers of the Ameen
“ shall be approved, he shall continue in employment, and be appointed to some
“ other district.”

Article 4.

The same as before (vide first paper of replies), with an addition in the following terms ; “ and as it is your particular desire, that whenever an Aumil
“ shall make a requisition for the aid of the British troops, you shall first be satisfied of the truth of his statements and the justice of his demands ; my orders
“ shall therefore be issued to the Aumils, that on every occasion of a payment of
“ revenue by the Zemindars, they invariably give a dakhela, or receipt, under their
“ seals, for the amount of that payment, to the Malgoozars, so that whenever an
“ Aumil shall request the aid of the troops for the enforcement of any demands,
“ the kaboolat or engagement of the Zemindar, which will be found among the
“ records of the Government, may be submitted to your inspection, and a copy of
“ it sent to you for this purpose, with copies of the dakhelas or receipts ; and you
“ may be thus satisfied of the true state of the case before you direct the punishment of the Zemindars.”

Article 6.

Exactly as before.

Article 7.

Do. do., leaving out the words “ that you should have advised me to desist
“ from it.”

Article 8.

The same, in as far as it relates to Khanazad Khan, but in the conclusion of it, having reference to Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, the preamble is totally omitted, and there are merely the following words : “ Although no injury or
“ loss could, in my opinion, arise to Tujumool Hoosein Khan, from committing the management of his Jagier to an Aumil of my selection, yet, in
“ compliance with the Governor-General's desire, the jagier shall be restored
“ to the Khan.”

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 13.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st April 1811, in Persian, in the Resident's hand.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter of this date, with your authenticated replies to the observations which I had the honour of submitting to you in my letter of the 9th ultimo.

Observing an essential difference between the terms of several articles contained in this document and those which were agreed on at our conference, and recollecting your Excellency's repeated assurance that this unpleasant discussion should terminate before your hunting excursion commenced, I am at a loss in what manner to reply to your Excellency's other letter of the same date, announcing the day of your march to be Saturday the 6th instant. For the present, in compliance with your Excellency's desire, I have instructed the commanding officer of the troops to hold a battalion of Sepoys in readiness to attend you. But I trust that your Excellency will lose no time in reconsidering the document which you have sent to me, reflecting on the terms of our agreement at our last conference, and informing me of the result of your deliberation.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.
No.

No. 14.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 2d April 1811.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
3 May 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Immediately on my receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 1st instant with its enclosure, I addressed a note to you in my own hand-writing, expressive of my concern at the essential difference which appeared to me between the terms of some of your Excellency's replies and those which were agreed on at our conference.

I now, in compliance with the desire communicated through the medium of Ameer Hyder, proceed to explain to your Excellency the difference to which I ha vealluded.

With a reference to the measure of appointing Ameens with my previous advice and concurrence, which your Excellency has expressly rejected, I had the honour of stating to you at our conference, that supposing, for the sake of experiment, the acquiescence of the British Government in your Excellency's appointment of Ameens, without previously consulting the Resident, in what manner, I would ask, was the conduct of the several Ameens, under the instructions which I have suggested, to be hereafter judged of by me, or corrected, if necessary, by your Excellency? And further, after the settlement of the country under the new system should be concluded, and Tehsildars should be nominated and established for the future collection of the revenue, in what manner was the Resident to be satisfied of the proper conduct of those Tehsildars, of their strict adherence to their engagements with the landholders, and of the justice of all their demands, which our troops might be called upon to enforce, and to which it was now my bounden duty to refuse my support or assistance, until satisfied of their justice in every respect?

After a long discussion of those questions, your Excellency was ultimately pleased to agree, with a view to my satisfaction on the first point, that all the proceedings of the Ameens, and copies of the several papers which they might transmit to the Presence, should be explained and forwarded for my information, and that my opinion of those proceedings and papers, after investigation and discussion with your Excellency, should guide the continuation of the Ameens, or their dismissal from the several offices to which your Excellency had originally appointed them.

For my satisfaction on the latter point, namely, the conduct and proceedings of the Tehsildars, your Excellency was pleased to assure me, that copies of all the engagements, whether kabooleat, putta, ekrar-namah, or other obligation whatsoever, which might be received or entered into by the Tehsildars, should be furnished for my information; and you were further pleased to declare, that an engagement to this effect should be inserted in the second article of your replies, and follow the detail of your objections to my original proposition regarding the Ameens, or should be conveyed by a separate letter to my address, under your Excellency's signature or seal.

Your Excellency, I admit, has inserted the former of those two engagements in the document which is now before me; but it is omitted in its proper place, and is subjoined to the third article of your replies, with which it has no connection whatever: and with regard to the second engagement, namely, that of your furnishing me with copies of the proceedings of the Tehsildars, your Excellency has not only introduced it in a wrong place, as the conclusion of the fourth article, but has also been pleased to limit its beneficial influence in a manner and degree which could never have been in my contemplation. In fact, by the terms of this second engagement, neither your Excellency nor I would possess nor be entitled to information, regarding the proceedings of any of the Tehsildars, until a commotion should be excited in the country, and then we should merely be apprized of the proceedings respecting such individual landholders or others as resisted the demands of the Tehsildar, and were actually in a state of rebellion.

Under these circumstances, it becomes my indispensable duty to request that, in pursuance of your Excellency's promise, the engagement having reference to

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 May 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

the Ameens, be inserted in its proper place, as a qualification of the second reply, and in the terms of the conclusion of the third ; and that a satisfactory assurance, having reference to the conduct of the Tehsildars, be also subjoined to the second article, as a further indispensable qualification of your Excellency's continued dissent from my beneficial proposal.

In the eighth article of your Excellency's replies, having reference to Khanazad Khan, though your Excellency have been ultimately pleased to acquiesce in the just and humane intercession of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, in behalf of this unfortunate Aumil, and the ends of justice and humanity be consequently answered, yet as your Excellency has persisted in the assertion of your right over the person and property of Khanazad Khan as over a slave, notwithstanding my repeated and apparently, nay avowedly, satisfactory arguments, against the legality or justice of this claim, it has now become my duty to convey to you, in more explicit terms than I wished, the grounds on which I solemnly deny that the right in question can be admitted.

Almass Alee Khan is declared and allowed to have been purchased, or acquired as a slave, by one of your Excellency's ancestors ; yet the original slavery of Almass, or the right of property in your Excellency's ancestors over him, if tried and determined by the tenets of the Mahomedan law, would be found to be utterly untenable ; in addition to which, the known circumstances of his having been employed as an Aumil or farmer of a large portion of the country during three successive Governments, and having annually required and obtained from his Sovereign acquittances of the revenue for which he was bound, are so totally inconsistent and incompatible with the condition of a slave, as to preclude the necessity for further argument. But admitting, for argument's sake, that Almass was your Excellency's slave, Khanazad is not the son nor the slave of Almass, that he should be the heir of his ancestor's bondage. He is a mussulman of known parentage, and the adopted child of Almass ; and that a mussulman, the adopted son of a mussulman, should be a slave, is as contrary to the Mahomedan law as it is contrary to reason and justice.

To conclude, if the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, under whose express sanction and command I have the honour of addressing your Excellency in behalf of Khanazad Khan, had considered this unfortunate person and his property in the light in which you have viewed them, your Excellency would never have been troubled with my intercession in his behalf.

I earnestly suggest the propriety of your Excellency's departing from this claim, and abridging the terms of the eighth article of your replies, as you have very properly done with a reference to the conclusion of that article.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 13.

Letter from the
Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier to J. Baillie, Esq., Resident. (Received the 4th April 1811.)

I have received your letter, dated the 1st instant, in answer to mine of the 29th ultimo, suggesting an alteration in the terms of some of my replies to your observations.

In compliance with your suggestions, I have made the necessary alterations, and transmit to you a new paper, containing them. Return my former replies.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No.

No. 16.

Third amended Replies from His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 4th April 1811.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
3 May 1811.

Third
Amended Replies.

Article 1.

As in the first amended replies.

Article 2.

As in the first amended replies, with the following additions: " And the Ameens having proceeded to their respective Elakas, all papers and documents relative to the scheme of a settlement, and of every other nature whatever, which they may transmit to the Presence, shall be submitted to your investigation, and copies of them shall be furnished for that purpose; after which, if the papers or proceedings of any Ameen shall appear to you to be improper, and you satisfy me of the impropriety of his proceedings, that Ameen shall be immediately dismissed, and another person shall be selected by me to succeed him: but if the proceedings and papers of the Ameen shall be approved, he shall continue in employment and be appointed to some other district. Further the papers transmitted by those Ameens which may be finally approved with your advice, shall be given to the Tehsildars, with strict orders to abide by them in forming the settlement of the districts; and after the settlement is concluded, to transmit all the original engagements of the Malgoozars, such as ekrar-namah, kabooleat, malzamin, and hazir zaminee, with copies of the puttahs which they grant, to the Presence, for the purpose of being recorded, keeping copies for their own guidance; and for all payments of revenue which are made, to grant dakhelas or receipts under their seals, that so, if at any future period a Tehsildar represent to the Presence the failure of Zemindars in their engagements, or resistance to the authority of the Tehsildar, requiring troops to coerce them, the several engagements of the Zemindars, which will then be on the records of the Government, may be ready for your inspection, and copies of them, with copies of the dakhelas, shall accordingly be sent for your perusal, that after satisfying yourself of the rebellious conduct of the Zemindars, and their actual breach of their engagements, you may take measures for their coercion and punishment."

Article 3.

As it stood in the original replies, without any addition or alteration.

Articles 4 and 6,

As in the original replies.

Article 7.

As in the second amended replies.

Article 8.

In the eighth article you have requested me to furnish you with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jan, and of the several exemptions which he pleads, &c.

In compliance with the wishes of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which it is my duty and my inclination to attend to, the troopers and others placed over Khanazad Khan have been withdrawn, and two Chupprassies only are over him. A statement of the just balances against him shall be sent for your investigation.

Conclusion of article eight as in the second amended replies.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1811.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, dated the 8th ultimo, reporting your proceedings under the instructions of Government, contained in my letter of the 28th of December 1810.

2. His Excellency in Council duly appreciates the arduous nature of the discussions which the peculiar character and disposition of his Excellency the Vizier produced, in the progress of your endeavours to obtain his Excellency's consent to the scheme of reform so earnestly recommended by this Government, and considers the conduct of the negociation to be highly creditable to your judgment, ability, and address. The issue of the application in favour of Mirza Jan, and for the release of Tujummool Hoosseïn Khan's jagier, is a subject of peculiar gratification to Government. The satisfaction which his Excellency in Council derives from the result of the negociation relative to the question of reform, as far as it has hitherto been made known to him, is however qualified by the reflection, that the Vizier's acquiescence in the main points of your proposed arrangements must be ascribed more to the energy and firmness with which you have urged them, than to a cordial admission, on the part of his Excellency, of the expediency of the suggested measures, and to a sincere desire to carry them into effect.

3. The system of proceeding which you proposed to the Vizier as the basis of a reform of the internal administration, appears to the Vice-President in Council to be generally judicious, and the most effectual that could be devised, under the disadvantages arising from the inherent vices and defects of his Excellency's Government. Upon one point alone the Vice-President in Council entertains considerable doubt; not, however, on the abstract ground of expediency, but upon that of public faith, as affected by a resumption of the farms before the expiration of the leases, and with or without the consent of the farmers. His Excellency in Council observes, that the Vizier himself has urged this objection; but he is not entirely satisfied of the solidity of the argument with which you met that objection, because, admitting even the constructive violation of his engagements with the Company which you have maintained, it could not be considered to affect the validity of a contract between the Vizier and his farmers, and it seems peculiarly unadvisable to commence a system of reform in the principles of an administration by a breach of public faith. Government would therefore recommend, in all practicable cases, a compromise with the farmers, but in none a compulsory resumption of the farms.

4. The only essential article of your propositions to which the Vizier appears ultimately to have withheld his consent, is your participation in the selection and appointment of Ameens. Whatever may be the opinion of Government with regard to the importance of this participation, his Excellency in Council approves your having ultimately yielded the point; first, because some doubt may be entertained of the right of the British Government to insist upon having a voice in the appointment of the Vizier's officers, even for the execution of measures prosecuted under the influence of its counsels; and secondly, because the object will, in some degree, be attained by the compromise to which his Excellency has assented.

5. The Vice-President in Council will be glad to learn that the Vizier has adopted the proclamation, and the instructions for the guidance of the Ameens, which you submitted to him, and which appear to his Excellency in Council to have been drawn up with much judgment.

6. The Government will expect with solicitude your report of the further progress, and effect of your endeavours for the accomplishment of an arrangement, not less important to the interests of the British Government than to those of the Vizier's Administration.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
3d May 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 7th June 1811.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 June 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.
Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice President in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which have passed between me and Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the troops at Pertaubghur.

2. It will be satisfactory to his Excellency in Council to observe from these documents, that the highly important service, on which Colonel Palmer was employed, has been brought to a successful termination, without any of the casualties of warfare, and that the detachment has returned to its cantonments at a proper season of the year.

3. Both His Excellency the Vizier and myself are disposed to ascribe the peaceable surrender of so many strong fortresses, and the submission of all the Zemindars in the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur to the conciliatory and judicious conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, whose proceedings in command of the detachment have uniformly merited and received his Excellency's entire approbation.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th May 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Sir :

I have the honour to report to you, that it is my intention to move from hence on the morning of the 11th instant towards Jugdeespore, from whence, as soon as I have quelled the present disturbances, and provided for the future tranquillity and security of that Elaka, I shall proceed onwards toward Dalmow, securing the forts in that district, and putting them in the possession of the Nawaub's officers, for the purpose of their being demolished, as soon as the necessary people for that purpose can be obtained, by which means I shall be able to return with my detachment to the cantonments at Pertaubghur by the middle of next month or the beginning of May at the latest.

I am sorry I should be obliged to acquaint you, that contrary to the intentions, and I believe the express orders of his Excellency the Vizier, the Aumil of the district of Sooltanpore has neither waited on, nor sent any of his people to me since my arrival in it.

I have, &c.

Camp, Pertaubghur,
7th March 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

Sir :

I have the honour to report to you, that my detachment will march to-morrow morning in progress to Barellie, at which place the settlements both of that Elaka and of Dalmow will be completed, and any forts, which may yet remain, destroyed.

I beg leave to call to your observation, that by the settlement of the two above-mentioned Elakas the object has been most completely obtained, in the entire adjustment of the revenues, and demolition of the various places of strength in the country, and the necessity of my detachment remaining embodied any longer in this season consequently does not exist.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 June 1811.

I propose, therefore, should I not receive from you any instructions to the contrary, returning to the station of Pertaubghur, taking in my way thither the district of Behar, for the purpose of dismantling any forts therein.

I have, &c.

Camp, Miryasha Khana,
2d April 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 2d instant.

2. It is extremely satisfactory to be informed, that the highly important services on which your detachment has been engaged have been brought so near to a conclusion ; but it will be still more satisfactory to me, if before the return of your detachment from the scene of its active operations during a period of so many months, you can procure and transmit to me a declaration, under the seal of the Vizier's principal officer, Mohummud Ashruff, to certify that all the forts and ghurries in the districts of Pertaubghur, Sooltanpore, and Barellie, have been taken by your detachment and destroyed, and that no Zemindar in those districts can be considered as possessing the means of further opposition to the Government.

3. In transmitting the above document, it is further desirable that you convey to me a list of the several fortresses which have been destroyed by the detachment under your command, specifying the names of the Zemindars by whom they were occupied, and the districts to which they belonged.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th April 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, commanding the Troops in Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. I solicit the favour of your attention to the enclosed translations of documents which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. The desire of his Excellency the Vizier, which is contained in the accompanying letter, was anticipated in my letter to your address under date the 4th instant, and renders a compliance with my suggestion on that occasion more important, if not indispensable.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th April 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received 6th April 1811.)

I have received an arzee from Race Sahib Ram, with a paper of intelligence relating to the demolition of the fort of Gadewar, in the district of Sooltanpore ; and I transmit for your information an extract from that arzee, and a copy of the akhbar which accompanied it.

I request that you will direct the commanding-officer of the detachment to furnish you with a particular report of the demolition of the forts and ghurries, describing the condition to which they have been reduced, so as to render them unfit for any further purpose of resistance, and that you will communicate the same for my information.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract from the Arzee of Raee Sahib Ram, 7th Rubbee-ool-azul 1226, 2d April 1811.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 June 1811.

Arzee
from the Aumil.

I formerly apprized your Excellency of the departure of the Colonel's Chupprassie, for the purpose of preventing the demolition of Bekeriole, belonging to Bhugwunt Sing, Talookadar of Bhawalpoor, and of other villages of Pertaubghur, and likewise acquainted you of the continuance of the Chupprassie with that Talookadar. I am informed by a Hircarrah just returned from Pertaubghur, that the Colonel's Chupprassie still remained with Bhugwunt Sing as late as the 30th ultimo.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Akhbar, 7th Rubbee-ool-azul, 1226, 2d April.

Akhbar.

Eseree Bukhsh, Talookadar of Gadewar and other villages belonging to Sooltanpore, was possessed of a serviceable fort in the former place, comprehending a space of five begahs, and having four bastions and a cavalier with loop-holes. The gateway is to the west, and has on the top of it a bungalow pierced also with loop-holes. The walls of the fort are made in the manner of dhus, that is, of several substances mixed with clay, to render it hard and durable. The side to the east is seven yards in thickness; that to the south is five; those to the north and west are ten; and all are twenty yards high. In the presence of the Colonel and Mohummud Ashruff, the rennee which surrounds the fort, the bungalow on the gateway, and five yards of the height of the wall only have been destroyed by your Excellency's bildars: three bastions and the cavalier in the curtain have been blown up. The fourth bastion to the south-west, in depth ten yards, and in length fifteen yards, with its rennee, is untouched, and the four sides to the height of fifteen yards are still remaining. The ditch which surrounded the fort was ten yards deep and seven broad. By the destruction of the rennee and part of the walls, three yards of the depth have been filled up: it still remains seven feet wide and seven deep.

Within the fort there is a house pierced with loop-holes, and three rantees. Before the gateway, towards the south, there is a walled enclosure with loop-holes, formed of the composition used in the walls of the fort, in breadth seven yards, and twelve yards high, and surrounded by a rennee with loop-holes also, which remains untouched. There is another unfinished enclosure which would take in three begahs in a state of forwardness. Two walls only of it to the north and east, formed with loop-holes, are finished and remain untouched. To the west and south of the fort, the jungle, extending a coss and a half, remains as it was.

True translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 4th and 7th instant. As soon as the papers required in your first letter can be prepared, I shall have the pleasure of furnishing them for your information.

After a most careful and attentive perusal of the translations of the documents sent to you by his Excellency the Vizier, I conceive it is expected I should answer to an implied insinuation, that the fort of Koorwah (called in the arzee of Raee Sahib Ram, Gadewar) has not been sufficiently demolished to prevent resistance to the authority of the Government. I must here beg leave to express my extreme concern, that his Excellency should deem the false and insolent assertions of his news-writer, who has not now for the first time employed himself in drawing up accounts on which references to me have been afterwards made, worthy a moment's attention. I beg leave to state, that

Koorwah

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Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Palmer

Koorwah was blown up in my presence, and both in mine, and in the opinion of the artillery officer professionally employed, is so completely dismantled as to be at all times accessible to an attack, and incapable of the slightest resistance, unless any repairs should be made, and the Nawaub's officers so neglectful of their duty as to omit giving timely information.

I trust this explanation will be deemed satisfactory ; and it will afford me great pleasure to find that his Excellency will place such reliance on my attention to my duty and zealous endeavours for his service, as will not be shaken by such unfounded allegations as those contained in the arzee of Rae Sahib Ram.

Respecting the demolition of Bekeriole belonging to Bhugwunt Sing, I have to state, that it is represented as being a mere dwelling place, and not of sufficient strength or consequence to deserve notice. However, as it is situated near the cantonments, I ordered it not to be touched until I had an opportunity of examining it, which I propose doing on my return.

Generally, on the subject of the present condition of the forts which have been visited by me and detachments from my force, I have the pleasure of representing them as defenceless, and incapable of resistance against a British force. But I really apprehend that, should a spirit of resistance against the Nawaub's officers induce the Talookadars to take up arms, the Aumils, unless assisted, would not be able to reduce them ; and indeed I don't believe they would dare to make an attack on a powerful Zemindar, or could attack one with a prospect of advantage, even if unsupported by a situation in a fort or strong position.

I have, &c.

Camp, Dalmow,
11th April 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that the prolonged stay of my detachment at this place has been caused by the pressing instances of his Excellency the Vizier's agent ; and he having now signified to me that the business will have been concluded by that period, I shall move towards Pertaubghur on the morning of the 29th instant.

The entire settlement of the revenues of these provinces, previous to the force under my command quitting the field, will be so satisfactory to myself, and I conceive so wholly in concurrence with your views, that I have been induced to acquiesce, and submit to the various and vexatious causes of delay which have occurred to protract my departure so much beyond the time I had reason to expect, and occasioned some slight infringement of your instructions not to remain out after the 1st of May ; but I hope you will think a few days of no consequence, when put in competition with objects of such importance.

I have, &c.

Camp, Dalmow,
27th April 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Palmer.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

4th May 1811.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that the detachment under my command returned to cantonments this morning.

Herewith

Herewith I transmit you the list of the forts, ghurries, and fortified houses, which have been destroyed, and have the honour to be, &c.

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Pertaubghur,
the 4th May 1811.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

List of Ghurries in the Purgunnahs of Ahmatie, Pertaubghur, and Sooltanpore which have been destroyed by the Detachment under my Command, from the 27th of October 1810 to the of April 1811, as certified by the accompanying Document.

List of Ghurries,
&c. destroyed.

No.	Names of Ghurries.	Names of the Owners.
<i>Purgunnah of Ahmethee.</i>		
	Ramnaghur	Rajah Hurchund Sing.
	Omra Chunaukie	Talookadar Jubba Sing.
	Rajghur.....	Babboo Bundah Lewah.
	Jugdeespore	Babboo Ajeet Sing.
5	Duckungung	Buksh Sing.
	Pooroobgung	Byroo Deen and Nehal Sing.
	Shahghur	Babboo Luo Gholam Sing.
	Kussrawah.....	Babboo Jeychund Sing.
	Duckungung.....	Babboo Jeychund.
10	Bohaurekpore	Ruwmust Sing.
	Bingah	Hunwant Sing.
	Sylah	Summer Sing.
	Mohumudpore	Banamy Bux and Sumaut Sing.
	Khose	Poorum Sing and Ghusen Sing.
15	Cutaly	Dooneah Sing.
	Sungra	Ackbar Sing.
	Burra Rossey.....	Deep Sing and Girraur Sing.
	Onurwah	Deergudge Sing.
	Kawhhaar.....	Doorgah Bux.
20	Butgowah	Mohun Loll Opudeeah.
	Cannoo	Babboo Jeychund Sing.
	Acsarra	Bannu Bux.
23	Ramghur	Toree Sing and Summand Sing.
24	Bunjimghur	Surdeen Sing.
	Kussarra	Abemaun Sing.
	Rossee Berroulee	Bowanny Bux (not totally destroyed).
	Koomeah.	
26	Bunna Ticker.	

Fortified Houses, &c. in the Purgunnah of Amethee.

	Sungrampore.
30	Daundoopore.
	Juogeeppore.
	Bhyra.
	Nuginunpoorah.
	Puckum Doowar.
35	Kororee.
	Hurrienpore.
	Surrawgh.
	Durmiar.
	Burbundah.
40	Kusserrah.

Purgunnah of Pertaubghur.

	Omree	Doorgah Persaud Talookadar.
	Untoo	Woodai Sing do.
	Soojakhur	Dooneah Sing do.
	Burbandah	Do. do.
	Nurwer.....	Byroo Bux do.

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List of Ghurries,
&c. destroyed.

No.	Names of Ghurries.	Names of the Owners.
	Domicpoor	Omed Sing.
	Loll Gunge	Rajah Behader Sing.
	Dewlee	Do.
9	Suwunsa	Seetu Sing.

In the Talooka of Dulleepore.

	Addar Gunge	Loll Bundassoroe Bux
	Derreanpore	Deer Gopul Sing.
	Laphim	Do.
	Chunnauka	Gooljar Sing.
	Durrawlee	Doorgah Pessaud.
	Mungapore.	
7	Petopore.	

In the Talooka of Puttee.

	Surbajeedpore	Bussawun Sing.
	Myddpore	Gumber Sing.
	Singh Ghur	Dewan Jubber Sing.
	Reypore	Do.
	Diawah	Do.
6	Simboeah	Do.

In the Talooka of Kytowllah.

	Kytowllah	Nohur Sing.
$\frac{2}{24}$	Amowah	Do.

Purgunnah of Sooltanpore.

In the Talooka of Burransah.

	Doonaposah	Sing Ram Sing.
2	Ramghur	Needan Sing.

In the Talooka of Coowar.

	Coowar Koss	Rajah Eseree Bux(not totally destroyed.)
	Negawah	Do.
3	Dewgeerah	Do.

In the Talooka of Popper Grant.

	Maeksoodum	Dooneah Sing.
	Jumkoree	Ginja Sing.
3	Looleah	Deerga Roy.

In the Talooka of Saurangpore.

	Kuppradee	Onrow Sing.
	Kurroundee	Do.
3	Turpasundee	Do.

In the Talooka of Amhut.

1	Dinnadea	
	Hyatna Ghur	Rissen funma Khan
	Soonarza	Do.
3	Cotch Gung	Do.

In the Talooka of Buddeah were four Ghurries.

4	Buddeah Koss	Rostum Sing.
	Bursawee	Do.
	Tukerda	Do.
7	Bunkepore	

Purgunnah of Sooltanpore.

2	Sew Ghur	Sungram Sing.
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No.	Names of Ghurries.	Names of the Owners.
<i>In the Talooka of Chandy Pertaubghur.</i>		
	Rumpore	Bheekum Sha.
	Kotrali	Surrubeet Sing.
	Gurropore.....	Baung Sookwer and Puddum Kear.
	Urgunpore.....	Omrow Sing.
5	Muckundpore	Persaud.
	Bhurhur.....	Raj Sah.
	Summaulah	Omrow Sing.
	Mucker Koolah.....	Gunga Sing and Bowanny Deen.
	Chupprah	Gurrine Sah.
10	Bingarrah	Zalim Sing.
	Shapore	Surroop Sing.
	Suree Munga.....	Pulwan Sing.
	Boorum Pully	
	Burnee	Surrubeet Sing.
15	Mulloopore	Jurour Sing.
	Boodoopore.	
	Danopore.	
	Shakpore joom.	
	Jugdeespore.	
20	Buddrah.	

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List of Ghurries,
&c. destroyed.

(Signed) S. PALMER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
Detachment.

To J. Baillie, Esq. Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 18th ultimo, transmitting copies of your correspondence with Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, and reporting the return to cantonments of the detachment under the command of that officer, after a successful termination of the service on which it had been employed, and to signify to you his Excellency the Vice-President in Council's entire concurrence in the favorable sentiments which you have expressed regarding the measures and proceedings of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer in the command of that detachment.

2. You will, therefore, be pleased to make known to Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer the just sense which his Excellency in Council entertains of the merits of his conduct, in the successful execution of the duties thus committed to his charge.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
7th June 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 21st June 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 8th ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed copies and translations of further letters and documents which have passed on that important subject between his Excellency the Vizier and myself.

2. The weak state of my health, occasioned by an accident which befel me on the morning of the 28th ultimo, has precluded my having any personal conferences

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ferences with the Vizier during much of the intermediate time from the date of the despatch above referred to, and has restricted my proceedings under the instructions of the Government on this subject, to the discussions in the accompanying documents.

3. From those documents his Excellency the Vice-President in Council will not fail to observe, and he will notice perhaps with regret, that his Excellency the Vizier, after consenting in a gracious manner, and with apparently perfect cordiality, to the principal arrangements which were proposed to him, has given way to some groundless apprehensions, and has urged many frivolous pretexts for delay, with a reference to the adoption of the measures which he still considers himself bound to adopt, as well in virtue of the stipulations of treaty as in pursuance of his engagements with me.

4. The nature of his Excellency's apprehensions is sufficiently developed and exposed in the documents which are now submitted; and his suggestion of a partial and experimental, instead of a general introduction, of the new system of assessment in his dominions, as conveyed by his letter of the 21st ultimo, under a modification of the terms of the proclamation and instructions to Aumils, which were submitted by me for his adoption, seemed to my judgment so nugatory in itself, and so manifestly intended and calculated to defeat the objects of the Government, that I had no hesitation whatever in rejecting that suggestion entirely, and insisting on his implicit adherence to the plan which I had proposed, and in which he had declared his acquiescence, by a formal and authenticated instrument conveyed in his letter of the 4th ultimo to my address.

5. The tenor of your despatch of the 3d instant, which I had the honour of receiving on the 21st, though it exhibit a more liberal view than I was at first prepared to admit, of some branches of the general subject, has not tended to suggest to me, after mature deliberation, the necessity of any material change in the character of my proceedings or discussions with the Vizier.

6. A resumption of any of the farms, which had been granted by his Excellency to individuals, before the expiration of their leases, and without the consent of the farmers, was certainly never in my contemplation; and it was only with a reference to the districts which were formerly managed by Almass, and in which the recent arrangements had proceeded in direct opposition to my advice, that I considered the British Government as entitled to throw the onus of a compromise on the Vizier, and to resist his arguments against reform, arising solely out of those engagements which he had contracted, in violation, as I presumed, of his promise to abide by our counsels in every important concern of his administration.

7. At the same time, I was credibly informed, and had every reason to believe, that the actual expiration of those leases with the present fusly year would make room for the proposed arrangements, without any breach of his Excellency's faith, and to the manifest advantage of the State, as well as of the farmers themselves, who might otherwise be induced, by vain hopes of their own, or by compulsory measures on the part of this Government, which are practised every day, to renew their engagements with his Excellency, to their own certain ruin, and to the further devastation of their districts.

8. On the other hand, I was perfectly aware that my early admission of his Excellency's plea, on the ground of those particular engagements, would immediately have suggested to his Excellency a more general and plausible pretext for postponing the reform in his Government, without any limitation of time, since my knowledge of his character and disposition pointed out to me as the certain consequence of such an admission on my part, his granting leases of, perhaps, the whole of his dominions, even pending the present negotiation, with a reference to periods and dates which must completely have frustrated the objects of this important discussion.

9. Under these circumstances, I thought it my duty, in the first instance, to resist, by an argument which appeared to my judgment to be strong at least, if not

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not entirely satisfactory, a plea of which the early and unqualified admission must have led to the total failure of the negotiation committed to my charge, suggesting at the same time an expedient by which the public faith of this Government might be preserved, namely, a reparation to all the farmers of any losses which they might eventually suffer, and further securing to the farmers the realization of their balances of revenue for the current fusly year, or credit for those balances with the Government, by the terms of a notification to the farmers, which was drafted for his Excellency's approval, and transmitted to him on the 6th ultimo, forming the first number of this despatch.

10. Since my receipt of your letter above noticed, after satisfying myself by the most accurate information which I could obtain, as well as by the Vizier's acknowledgement to a certain extent, that all the leases in his dominions, with the exception of those of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, and a few other inconsiderable districts under the charge of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, do actually expire at the close of this fusly year, I have thought it my duty to declare to his Excellency, in direct and explicit terms, that the introduction of the new system of assessment into those particular districts, though expedient in the highest degree on general grounds, and for the sake of uniformity in his administration, ought not, in my judgment, and cannot, with my sanction, be permitted to take effect, but by a compromise with his Aumil, Hukeem Mehdi, whose disposition to accede to his Excellency's views cannot reasonably be doubted, and whose management of the districts under his charge during the remaining period of his lease will, at all events, be less injurious to the country than that of any other farmer in his dominions.

11. It is a singular and remarkable circumstance, if it be true, as I have reason to suspect, that the extension of Hukeem Mehdi's lease has been made within these few days, and subsequently to the above declaration on my part. His Excellency the Vizier, after acknowledging the fact of the expiration of a number of leases with the present fusly year, announcing to me the death of one of his principal farmers, Balek Ram, and hearing the above declaration, replied to a question on my part respecting the terms of his engagement with Hukeem Mehdi, that *he had forgotten the terms of that engagement, and was ignorant of the number of years which it had to run*, but that he would inquire of the Hukeem and inform me in the course of the following day. He has accordingly since informed me, that a period of three years is to run in the lease of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, and has added, that he will speak to Hukeem Mehdi about a compromise, and let me know the Hukeem's determination.

12. The conversation above referred to took place on the morning of the 25th instant, when his Excellency did me the honour of breakfasting with me; and the circumstance, related as it occurred, is so descriptive of the Vizier's disposition, and of the general character of this negotiation, in as far as his Excellency is concerned, that I could not with propriety neglect the present occasion of recording it.

13. A circumstance equally characteristic, having reference to the excuses of the Ameens, is also worthy of being noticed, and may be considered as an authenticated fact. Of the six Ameens whose arzees were conveyed to me by the Vizier in his letter* of the 8th instant, two had been formerly in my employment while agent to the Governor-General in Bundelcund, and from those persons I received, through an indirect channel, the information of their having been furnished by the Vizier's orders with drafts of the arzees which they were required to seal and present to him, under pain of his Excellency's displeasure.

14. A further report of my conference with his Excellency the Vizier at the Residency, on the morning of the 25th instant, comprizing a detail of the arguments by which I endeavoured to remove his apprehensions with a reference to the original plan, and of the modifications which his Excellency suggested in the execution of that plan, shall be submitted in a future despatch for the Honourable the Vice-President's information.

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15. In the mean time, I have no hesitation in expressing a sanguine hope of the successful issue of the negociation, to the utmost extent which could have been contemplated by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council at the date of my original instructions.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
28th May 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 4th April 1811.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter of this date, with your final replies to my observations, amended in the terms which were agreed on, and to my entire satisfaction. The document formerly transmitted is returned, agreeably to your desire, and I shall have the honour of submitting to your Excellency a draft of the instructions to Aumils, which you have now been pleased to require from me, in the course of to-morrow or next day.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure.

Draft of a Purwannah to be addressed to Aumils, or Farmers, referred to in the annexed Letter, and submitted to His Excellency the Vizier by the Resident, on the 6th April 1811.

Whereas the property and happiness of my people form the leading objects of my care, and whereas the present and long existing system of farming out the districts, with a view to the realization of the revenues, has appeared to be injurious to those objects, as affording to the farmers and Aumils the power of oppressing the landholders, and to the landholders of distressing their tenants and others, the cultivators of the soil; therefore, and with the friendly advice and concurrence of the Honourable Company's Government, whose interests are identified with my own, I have at this auspicious season determined to abolish the system of farming for ever, and to introduce in the room of it such a system, that the Zemindars, cultivators, and peasantry, may with confidence and security employ themselves in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, and pay the just revenues of the Government without any failure or delay: and as this measure cannot properly be carried into effect without first ascertaining the condition and assets of the several mehals in my dominions, I have now deemed it proper to appoint and depute able and upright Ameens, with particular instructions for their guidance, to collect and transmit to the Presence all revenue papers connected with the several mehals.—..... Ameen, has accordingly been deputed to your Elaka; and you are hereby strictly commanded, immediately on his arrival in your district, to attend on him, and assist him as much as possible in the performance of the duties of his office, more particularly in the collection of the papers which are detailed in the sunnud of amanut. You will cause all the Zemindars and Seeghadars to attend on the Ameen without delay, and to produce the papers which may be required by him. You will yourself, at the same time, continue to make the collections of the arrears of your Elaka, agreeably to the kabooleat and putta, till the end of the month of Bysak and eventually of Jeth, so that no balances may remain due in the district at all events by the end of Jeth; and if any of the Zemindars should be dilatory in paying up the arrears which may be due to you, the Ameen will assist you in realizing them, agreeably to the orders of the Sircar, till the commencement of the month of Assaur, when your authority will finally cease, and you will have nothing to do with the collections.

But as it is not my wish or intention that any of the farmers in my dominions should suffer loss by this change of the system, it is hereby particularly enjoined, with a reference to all Zemindars who may be in an impoverished condition, and may not have the means of liquidating their balances to the State,
that

that you, in conjunction with the Ameen, do minutely investigate the circumstances, and if satisfied of their incapacity to pay, that bonds for the just balances be taken from them, attested by the Chowdries and Canoongoes : in which case the amount of those several bonds shall be carried to your credit with the Government at the time of settling your accounts.

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Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 21st April 1811.)

Having made some alterations in the draft of the proclamation, instructions to Ameens, and orders to Aumils, I return them to you, with a separate paper, containing a statement of my apprehensions and fears on the subject of the new system. The several Ameens are in attendance, and when you return the above-mentioned documents the Ameens shall be deputed to their stations. You will peruse with attention at your leisure the separate paper, and submit your answer when you have done so. As the Right Honourable the Governor-General has proceeded on the public service to a distance, I request that you will furnish me with the proper form of address, that I may write to his Excellency Lieutenant-General Hewett.

Letter
from the Vizier.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Translation of the separate Paper enclosed in the above Letter, containing the Fears of His Excellency the Vizier, on the subject of the Introduction of the new System of Administration.

Enclosure.

The measures recommended for the settlement of my country shall be adopted ; but I am apprehensive that in the hurry to carry those measures into effect, many mehauls which are now in perfect order, have no occasion for the aid of troops, and of which the revenues are regularly paid, may fall into confusion, and the payment of their revenues be withheld. Further, it does not appear to me to be possible, that the voluminous reports and other documents which will be submitted by the Ameens from the different Elakas in my dominions can be attentively perused by me in a short space of time, nor that you will be able to peruse them when sent to you ; and as such a system as the present has never yet been introduced into my dominions, I am apprehensive that it cannot now be accomplished, more especially in so short a period as four months. It appears, indeed, to me to be a matter of the greatest difficulty, and therefore, with a view to information, I ask you the following questions.

How is the correctness of the documents under the new system, which may be furnished by the Ameens, to be ascertained, so that no omission or inaccuracy shall remain in them ? In what manner are the Ameens to ascertain the real state of the revenue from original papers in Hindec, unless they be translated into Persian ? and what a length of time it will take to put these documents into Persian ?

I am convinced that, whenever the Ameens shall proceed to their districts, the authority of the Aumils will be done away ; and in this case, till the period for appointing Tehsildars shall arrive, after the removal of the present Aumils, who is there to collect the revenues of the Sircar ? If it be intended by the introduction of the new system to do away the necessity for the aid of British forces, the accomplishment of this object seems to me to be totally impossible, by reason of the rebellious conduct of the Zemindars ; because, even in the Company's dominions, notwithstanding their power to punish and the good order

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order which is maintained, the Zemindars frequently oppose the British troops and erect forts in their estates. Further, in the districts which are subject to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, and in the meahals which were lately farmed by Khanazad Khan, as well as in the district of Baraitch, and other places, where the kists are regularly paid and there is not the smallest disorder, I see no occasion whatever for changing the present system. You have yourself observed the flourishing state of the cultivation from Lucknow to this place. If the Zemindars and the cultivators were oppressed or disaffected, we should not have seen the fields in such a state. From witnessing this abundant cultivation we may infer with certainty, that the peasantry are perfectly satisfied with the present system of administration; and I am only fearful that this flourishing state of the country may be altered, and that I shall suffer great losses in consequence. If, therefore, you concur in opinion with me, I suggest the propriety of introducing the new system merely for trial into one Elaka for the present, which may be considered as in the greatest disorder; and if the result of this experiment prove satisfactory, it can be introduced by degrees into the whole; but if you deem it proper to send Ameens at once into all the districts, it shall certainly be done at your desire.

I have stated to you all my apprehensions; and I desire, that after mature and deliberate consideration, you will remove my fears by your advice, suggest such measures as may preclude any loss of my revenue, and state your answers in such a manner as may completely obviate my apprehensions.

Article 2.

Regarding those Zemindars who may enter into engagements with the cultivators and peasantry of their estates, it seems proper that copies also of their engagements should be recorded in my office, with a view to the settlement of disputes, or will you suggest any other mode for this purpose?

Obligations should also be taken from all the Zemindars to the following effect: that they will not repair any fortresses which have been destroyed, and will not construct any new ones, nor disobey the orders which they may receive, nor afford protection to robbers, nor take any of that class into their service; and if any traveller be killed, or the property of any person be stolen in their Elakas, that they are responsible for such property and will make it good, otherwise forfeit their zemindaries.

Dated 26th Rubee ool awul 1226, or 21st April 1811.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Draft of the Proclamation, as amended by His Excellency the Vizier, and received with his Letter to the Resident, under date 21st April 1811.

Be it known to the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, Putwarries, Cultivators, Ryots, and peasantry at large, of Purgunnah....., Zillah....., Soobah Oude.

That whereas the prosperity and happiness of my people must ever form the leading objects of my care, I have therefore, at this auspicious season, determined to introduce in my dominions a system of future arrangement, by which the Zemindars and cultivators being secure from the unjust exactions of Aumils and farmers, may with confidence proceed in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, paying the just revenues of the Government without failure or delay, and be no ways liable to the oppression, tyranny, or extortion of any farmers or Tehsildars; that thus the revenue and resources of the country may be yearly increased, the cultivation of the land be so extended and improved that in process of time no uncultivated land shall remain in my dominions, and that the frequent insurrections and commotions by which the landholders and peasantry are ruined, the expences of the Government increased, and general disorder excited, may now and for ever be at an end.

With

With a view to carry this system into effect, I have accordingly nominated and deputed able and upright Ameens into all the meahuls of my dominions. These Ameens will immediately proceed to the several districts under their charge, where having assembled all the landholders, Malgoozars, cultivators, and others in the district, and having inspired confidence in their minds by apprizing them of my benevolent intentions, they will commence a diligent inquiry into the actual state and condition of every town and village in the meahuls. They will demand from the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, and Putwarries of the district, a true and accurate description of each village and estate, of its waste and cultivated lands, of the condition of its inhabitants and peasantry, and the causes of their actual condition. They will further require from those officers the several revenue papers which are specified in a separate list, with which the Ameens have been furnished, and they will submit immediately to the Presence the result of their investigation, respectively, with the several documents alluded to, with the least practicable delay.

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You are, therefore, hereby commanded to attend the Ameen of your district immediately on his arrival within its limits, to confide in him as the servant of the Government, to convey to him every information regarding the state and condition of the district, which he may require and you may possess, without the smallest partiality or reserve, and to produce and deliver every document which may be required by him without any hesitation or delay, being obedient to his orders in all things, and considering his favourable or unfavourable report as advantageous or injurious to your interests. You are, at the same time, strictly prohibited from giving or offering to the Ameen, or to any of his deputies or servants, directly or indirectly, the smallest nuzzur, or bribe, or douceur, on any pretext whatsoever.

Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Draft of the Perwannah to Aumils or Tehsildars, as amended by his Excellency the Vizier, and received with his Letter to the Resident, under date the 21st April 1811.

Whereas the prosperity and happiness of my people form the leading objects of my care, I have therefore, at this auspicious season, determined to introduce in my dominions a system of future arrangement, by which the Zemindars, cultivators, and peasantry, may with confidence and security employ themselves in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, and pay the just revenues of the Government without any failure or delay: and as this measure cannot be properly carried into effect without first ascertaining the condition and assets of the several meahuls in my dominions, I have now deemed it proper to appoint and depute able and upright Ameens, with particular instructions for their guidance, to collect and transmit to the Presence all revenue papers connected with the several meahuls.

....., Ameen, has accordingly been deputed to your Elaka; and you are hereby strictly commanded, immediately on his arrival in your district, to attend on him, and assist him as much as possible in the performance of the duties of his office, more particularly in the collection of the papers which are detailed in the sunnud of amanut. You will cause all the Zemindars and Seeghadars to attend on the Ameen without delay, and to produce the papers which may be required by him.

You will yourself, at the same time, continue to make the collections of the arrears of your Elaka, agreeably to the kabooleat and putta, till the end of the month of Jeth, and eventually of Assur, so that no balances may remain due in the districts, at all events, by the end of Assur; and if any of the Zemindars should be dilatory in paying up the arrears which may be due to you, the Ameen will assist you in realizing them, agreeably to the orders of the Sircar.

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till the commencement of the month of Sawun, when your authority will finally cease, and you will have nothing to do with the collections,

But as it is not my wish or intention that any of the farmers in my dominions should suffer loss by the change of the system, it is hereby particularly enjoined, with a reference to all Zemindars who may be in an impoverished condition, and may not have the means of liquidating their balances to the state, that you, in conjunction with the Ameen, do minutely investigate the circumstances, and if satisfied of their incapacity to pay, that bonds for the just balances be taken from them, attested by the Chowdries and Canoongoes; in which case the amount of those several bonds shall be carried to your credit with the Government at the time of settling your accounts.

Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

N.B. The alteration suggested by the Vizier in the draft of instructions to Ameens having been subsequently departed from by his Excellency, it seemed unnecessary to transmit another copy of that document as a number of this despatch.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 25th April 1811.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 21st instant (recapitulate its contents).

The only ground of apprehension which has ever arisen in my mind, with a reference to the introduction of the system recommended by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, is connected with a circumstance which my genuine regard for your Excellency's interests and welfare induces me candidly to state. It is the want of a cordial concurrence on your own part in the necessity of the measures proposed, and a sincere resolution of adopting and carrying them into execution, in a manner to ensure their success. If your Excellency could be induced to consider the salutary arrangements in question as they are viewed by the British Government and by me, and to bestow your attention accordingly, there is not the shadow of a doubt in my mind of their easy and successful conclusion, to the incalculable advantage of the State, and to the relief of your Excellency's mind from every degree of fear or anxiety.

I have observed with attention, and with concern, some corrections which your Excellency has made in the drafts of the proclamation and instructions that were submitted by me for your consideration. Those documents were prepared, after mature and deliberate reflection on my part, with a degree of care and attention proportioned to the importance of the subject, and to my interest in the successful accomplishment of the salutary measures proposed. Every sentence was weighed before I inserted it, and in each particular expression I contemplated some particular advantage with a reference to the objects in view. Your Excellency's rejection of certain clauses, without stating any grounds for having done so, or objections to the clauses themselves, has therefore disappointed my expectations in a degree which I cannot describe, and might justly be considered as a proof of your reluctance to admit of the reform, and of your intention of frustrating its objects.

The nature of the friendship and alliance subsisting between the two States is known to the whole world, and to every description of your subjects. Is there a landholder or inhabitant of your Excellency's dominions, who can be ignorant that the good order of the country at large, the support of your Excellency's authority, and the punishment of your refractory subjects, depend on the British Government, and on the aid of the Company's troops? and, under such

such circumstances, what possible injury can arise, nay, what obvious benefit may not be expected, from the admission of the words which I suggested, and which your Excellency has been pleased to expunge, viz. "with the advice and concurrence of the British Government:" the manifest intention of them is, that the landholders and peasantry of the country, who have hitherto been greatly oppressed under the influence of the baneful system of farming, and who have submitted to the rapacity of the farmers through the terror of the British arms alone, should now have the satisfaction of knowing that your Excellency, sensible of their condition, and of the baneful nature of the former system, has, of your own free will and accord, abolished that system entirely, and with the friendly advice and concurrence of the British Government, has resolved to introduce a better system of administration, under which their condition must be improved. Apprized of this happy reform, and ascribing it to the united wisdom and power of both States, their confidence, in the first instance, in your Excellency's benevolent intentions, will facilitate the introduction of the system and the execution of the measures of reform; and the inclination as well as the power, on their parts, of opposing your Excellency's authority, or resisting those salutary measures, will at once and for ever be at an end. In short, the admission of this particular clause into the proclamation and orders to the Aumils seems, to my judgment, indispensable to their success, and its rejection injudicious and unbecoming: more especially as your Excellency must be aware, that I have already, in the discharge of my duty, submitted to the Governor-General in Council a translation of the documents in question; and in the case of their approval by our Government, or indeed in any event, the rejection of such a clause as this by your Excellency must appear to be indelicate in the extreme.

To some other corrections which have been made, though they too appear to be objectionable, I am rather disposed to assent, than to oppose your Excellency's wishes in any save essential points; and on this ground I will cheerfully agree to the omission of that part of the preamble, or introductory clause, in which the oppression of former times is described, because I by no means wish to preserve unpleasant reflections on the past, while contemplating happy prospects for the future. I have accordingly prepared new drafts, and transmit them for your Excellency's consideration, in the hope that no further alterations may take place, and that the present forms may be admitted without regret, on a sincere conviction of their utility.

From motives of respectful consideration for your Excellency's feelings alone, though I cannot avoid considering all your apprehensions as imaginary, I have submitted on a paper apart, my answers to the doubts and alarms which are conveyed by the enclosure in your letter, and I sincerely hope and expect that they will completely remove your apprehensions.

With regard to the proper style of address to be used in writing to General Hewett, who is now Vice-President, and vested with the same authority as the Governor-General in Council, during his Lordship's absence from the Presidency, your Excellency having many precedents before you must be perfectly able to decide, independently of my suggestions; but as you have been pleased to make a reference to me, I recommend that some addition be made to the usual form of address in writing to his Excellency General Hewett.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Answers to His Excellency the Vizier's Objections to the Introduction of the System of Administration recommended by the British Government.

Enclosure.

The apprehensions which your Excellency entertains, that the melauls of your dominions, which are now in good order, may fall into confusion, and the payment of the revenue be suspended, immediately on the arrival of the Ameens, seem to my judgment to be totally imaginary, and the expediency of hastening the departure of the Ameens, with a view to the speedy collection of the revenue papers required, for the performance of which duty the remainder

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mainder of the present month of Bysaak, the ensuing month of Jeth, and a few days of Assaur, are all the time that remains to us, is established on the obvious ground, that any further delay in their departure may very possibly preclude the introduction of the new system of assessment during the ensuing fushy year.

If the present Aumils of the several mehauls which your Excellency considers as in perfect order be indeed, as your Excellency supposes, both trustworthy and efficient in their situations, but a trifling, if any, portion of the revenue can remain to be collected in their districts, at the period when the Ameens shall arrive; and for that portion, as indeed for the whole of the revenue of this year, those active and intelligent Ameens would most probably have obtained security at the dates of their settlements with the landholders, or will at all events take that security now, while the Rubbee harvest is still standing, or cut down, at the disposal of the Aumils, under their shuhnus, affording ample security to the Government for any just balances which may be due, and susceptible of immediate attachment, so as to prevent any loss to the Sircar. In addition to which, as the Ameens have been strictly enjoined to assist the Aumils in the realization of the just balances of revenue, instead of impeding the collections, I see no reason to doubt that the whole of the revenue of those mehauls will be realized by the end of the month of Jeth.

With regard to what your Excellency has stated, that "it does not seem possible to you to peruse such voluminous documents in time," &c., it is not necessary or probable, that the whole of the documents required from the Ameens should be prepared and submitted to the Presence at once. They will necessarily be sent in gradually from the different mehauls, and your Excellency will, I doubt not, have full time to peruse them as they arrive. Besides, as from the date of the despatch of the Ameens, if they be now in readiness to depart, until the time of concluding the settlement, which is usually in the months of Maug and Phagoon (January and February next), there seems more than abundance of time for every degree of necessary investigation.

With regard to what your Excellency has stated, that "as such a system as the present has never been practised in your dominions," &c. If the system which is now recommended were harsher in its principles or practice than that which it is intended to supersede, your Excellency's argument might be applied to it; but as the contrary is manifestly the case, and as the system now recommended has obviously for its basis and intention the happiness and comfort of the landholders, and of every description of your subjects, no reasonable doubt can be entertained of its easy introduction and progress, nor of the confidence and satisfaction with which it will be received by all ranks and descriptions of people; but if any doubt can remain, let us look to the Company's territory surrounding your Excellency's dominions on every side, in which the same system of administration once prevailed, and in which the beneficial arrangements that are now recommended to your Excellency have been gradually but easily introduced, to the obvious advantage of the Government, and the acknowledged happiness of its subjects. Your Excellency's cordial concurrence in the adoption of similar arrangements can alone be wanting to their success.

In answer to your Excellency's question, "how the papers submitted by the Ameens," &c., I submit for your present satisfaction, that as the annual revenue of the whole of your Excellency's dominions has been collected and paid into your treasury for a great number of years, it is impossible that the amount of that revenue should be unknown to you, or that documents should be wanting among your records, and among those of your farmers and Aumils, a comparison of which with the documents to be furnished by the Ameens will form one important criterion for ascertaining the accuracy of the latter. For example: if, in the papers of any Ameen, a very material increase or diminution of assets be alleged, without a satisfactory explanation of the cause of it, there will certainly be ground for suspecting the accuracy of the statements of that Ameen, and the general propriety of his conduct; whereas, if the comparative statements of the present and former years shall deviate but in a small degree, and the causes of that deviation be explained, there will be manifest ground for considering the statements of the Ameens as correct, or approaching near to correctness; and since

since perfection, or perfect accuracy, is not to be hoped for at once, we can only calculate on approaching it by degrees; at all events if the Ameens whom your Excellency has selected, or may hereafter select, be in any degree qualified for the office, by integrity, diligence, and former experience of the art, and act agreeably to those instructions which I have prepared for their guidance, the information to be gained by their proceedings will doubtless be found to exceed in its character, extent, and importance, what your Excellency has hitherto possessed, regarding the revenue and resources of your dominions.

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With regard to your Excellency's question, having reference to original papers in Hindee, I entertain not the smallest doubt that a majority, if not the whole of the revenue officers in your Excellency's dominions, like those of the Company's provinces, have their revenue papers both in Persian and Hindee; but allowing this difficulty in some districts to exist, the task of translation into Persian may easily and quickly be performed, by a few additional writers attached to each of the Ameens.

With regard to your Excellency's conviction, that "whenever the Ameens shall proceed to those districts, the authority of the Aumils will be done away," &c., I can only assure your Excellency that I foresee no possible disorder nor loss from the introduction of the new system and appointment of Ameens, as suggested. The present farmers and Aumils will collect the balances of this year, with the assistance and support of the Ameens, as already suggested, until the term of their leases and authority shall expire, by which time the most important duties of the Ameens will also doubtless be concluded; and on the removal of the Aumils and farmers, if any part of the duties of the Ameens shall remain, and Tehsildars under the new system shall not have been appointed before the ordinary commencement of the collections for the ensuing fussy year, namely, the beginning of the month of Kooar, in that case your Excellency can authorize the Ameens, as was done on a similar occasion by me, to commence the collections of the khureef, or first harvest, agreeably to the former jumma, or to the actual produce of the khureef; and thus it is impossible to conceive how any loss or disorder can be occasioned by the absence of Tehsildars.

In answer to your Excellency's remark, that, "if it be intended, by the introduction of the new system, to do away the necessity for the aid of the British troops," &c., I have great pleasure in assuring you, as I do without the smallest hesitation, that if the system recommended by our Government be carried into complete effect, and in the manner which the Government has recommended, by a cheerful and uniform compliance with its advice, your Excellency's title to demand the constant aid of its troops will then be confirmed in a degree which can never afterwards be questioned; and the just and natural hesitation which has lately so often been stated, with regard to the employment of our forces in support of the authority of your Aumils, and for the suppression of refractory Zemindars, can never again be entertained.

With a reference to your Excellency's observation respecting the districts of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, &c., I am fully prepared to acknowledge the ability and efficiency of that Aumil, and I will never recommend to your Excellency to discharge from your service or employment a person of such eminent talents, while I entertain a good opinion of him in other respects. On the contrary, as this person in the situation of a Moostajer, or farmer, has managed his district so well, has manifestly improved its condition, and has regularly paid the revenue of the Sircar, being satisfied that his knowledge and talents might be applied to a still more beneficial purpose, and to far more advantage to the State, under the influence of the system of reform, I would earnestly recommend to your Excellency that, on the division of the country into Zillahs, in pursuance of my original suggestion, and of your Excellency's repeated assurance, the charge of a principal Zillah, with a suitable salary and establishment, be committed to this efficient officer, who seems so worthy of your Excellency's regard, and so sincerely attached to your interests.

With a reference to the second and concluding article of your Excellency's remarks, I entirely concur in the propriety of every measure described in it,

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which is exactly in conformity with the early practice of the Honourable Company's Government, and was in my contemplation to submit at a proper season for your notice.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

*Draft of the Proclamation, as again submitted to His Excellency the Vizier.
(Dated the 25th April 1811.)*

Be it known to the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, Putwarries, cultivators, Ryots, and peasantry at large of purgunnah, Zillah, Soobah Oude, That whereas the prosperity and happiness of my people must ever form the leading objects of my care, I have, therefore, at this auspicious season, with the friendly advice and concurrence of the Honourable Company's Government, determined to abolish the system of farming for ever, and to introduce in the room of it a system by which the landholders, cultivators, and peasantry, being secure from the unjust exactions of Aumils and farmers, may with confidence proceed in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, paying the just revenues of the Government without failure or delay, and be in no ways liable to the oppression, tyranny, or extortion of any farmers or Tehsildars; that thus the revenue and resources of the country may be yearly encreased, the cultivation of the land be so extended and improved that in process of time no uncultivated land shall remain in my dominions, and that the frequent insurrections and commotions by which the landholders and peasantry are ruined, the expenses of the Government increased, and general disorder excited, may now and for ever be at an end.

With a view to carry this system into effect, I have accordingly nominated and deputed able and upright Ameens into all the meahuls of my dominions. Those Ameens will immediately proceed to the several districts under their charge, where having assembled all the landholders, Malgoozars, cultivators, and others in the district, and having inspired confidence in their minds by apprizing them of my benevolent intentions, they will commence a diligent inquiry into the actual state and condition of every town and village in the mehaul. They will demand from the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, and Putwarries of the district, a true and accurate description of each village and estate, of its waste and cultivated lands, of the condition of its inhabitants and peasantry, and the causes of their actual condition. They will further require from those officers the several revenue papers which are specified in a separate list, with which the Ameens have been furnished, and will submit immediately to the Presence the result of their investigations, respectively, with the several documents alluded to, with the least practicable delay.

You are, therefore, hereby commanded to attend the Ameen of your district immediately on his arrival within its limits, to confide in him as the servant of the Government, to convey to him every information regarding the state and condition of the district, which he may require and you possess, without the smallest partiality or reserve, and to produce and deliver every document which may be required by him without any hesitation or delay, being obedient to his orders in all things, and considering his favourable or unfavourable report as advantageous or injurious to your interests. You are, at the same time, strictly prohibited from giving or offering to the Ameen, or to any one of his deputies or servants, directly or indirectly, the smallest nuzzer, or bribe, or douceur, on any pretext whatsoever. Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Draft

Second Draft of a Purwannah to be addressed to the Aumils, or Farmers, amended by the Resident, and transmitted in his Letter to the Vizier, under date the 25th April 1811.

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Whereas the prosperity and happiness of my people form the leading objects of my care, I have therefore, at this auspicious season, with the friendly advice and concurrence of the Honourable Company's Government whose interests are identified with my own, determined to abolish for ever the system of farming the revenue, which has hitherto prevailed in my dominions, and to introduce in the room of it such a system, that the Zemindars, cultivators, and peasantry, may with confidence and security employ themselves in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, and pay the just revenues of the government without any failure or delay: and as this measure cannot properly be carried into effect without first ascertaining the condition and assets of the several meahals in my dominions, I have now deemed it proper to appoint and depute able and upright Ameens, with particular instructions for their guidance, to collect and transmit to the Presence all revenue papers connected with the several meahals....., Ameen has accordingly been deputed to your Elaka; and you are hereby strictly commanded, immediately on his arrival in your district, to attend on him, and assist him as much as possible in the performance of the duties of his office; more particularly in the collection of the papers which are detailed in the sunnud of amanut. You will cause all the Zemindars and Seeghadars to attend on the Ameen without delay, and to produce the papers which may be required by him. You will yourself, at the same time, continue to make the collections of the arrears of your Elaka. agreeably to the kabooleat and putta, till the end of the month of Jeth, or eventually of Assaur, so that no balances may remain due in the district at all events by the end of Assaur; and, if any of the Zemindars should be dilatory in paying up the arrears which may be due to you, the Ameen will assist you in realizing them, agreeably to the orders of the Sircar, till the commencement of the month of Sawun, when your authority will finally cease, and you will have nothing to do with the collections.

But as it is not my wish or intention that any of the farmers in my dominions should suffer loss by this change of the system, it is hereby particularly enjoined, with a reference to all Zemindars who may be in an impoverished condition, and may not have the means of liquidating their balances to the State, that you, in conjunction with the Ameen, do minutely investigate the circumstances, and if satisfied of their incapacity to pay, that bonds for the just balances be taken from them, attested by the Chowdries and Canoongoes, in which case the amount of those several bonds shall be carried to your credit with the Government at the time of settling your accounts.

Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAIELIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 8th May 1811.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have shewn a copy of your draft of instructions to the Ameens, and now enclose a copy of what six of those Ameens have written.

I request that you will peruse it with attention, and conformably with such suggestions as you may then submit on the subject, orders shall be issued to the Ameens.

I have received your letter enclosing answers to my objections, and shall reply to it hereafter.

The Arzee of Sheo Ram, and Lutchmun Pershaud, and other Ameens.

Enclosure.

We have been honoured by the receipt of the drafts of sunnuds, appointing us to the office of Ameens, and we have understood your Excellency's commands for collecting the revenue documents, &c. We accordingly submit to the Presence

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Presence our sentiments regarding such orders as we can perform, and such as we consider to be impossible. Agreeably to the orders we have received we will stick up the proclamation in the Sudder Kutcherry, and explain its contents to the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Mokuddums, Putwarries, and Zemindars, whom we shall assemble for that purpose; we will further cause copies of it in Persian to be promulgated in the villages and other parts of the country. But we request that your Excellency will be pleased to point out to us, what measures are to be adopted towards Talookadars who do not attend the Kutcherry and pay no attention to our summons.

We will submit a list of all the villages in the Purgunnah, both aslee and dakhilee, under the signature of the Seeghadars; but, with a reference to the jumma for the last ten years of such villages as may have been held by Talookadars under one general kabooleat, the gross amount of the kabooleat only can be ascertained from the documents with the Seeghadars, and it is of course impossible to ascertain the jumma of each separate village. We request that your Excellency will be pleased to point out the mode of accomplishing this object, and we wait your orders on that head. We shall demand from the Seeghadars the jumma-wasil-baukee accounts of the last and present years, and shall submit those documents to the Presence.

An account of the assessments of all settled villages, though this can be ascertained from the wasil-baukee account, shall also be forwarded to the Presence.

An account of the jumma bundee of unsettled, or kham, villages, if it be found in the possession of the Seeghadars or Aumils, shall likewise be submitted to the Presence.

We shall also demand the hissab-kird from the Seeghadars and Aumils, and transmit it in obedience to your orders.

We will collect from the Seeghadars and Aumils such copies of puttass and kabooleats as they may have and forward them to the Presence; but as, in many cases, puttass are not granted to the Zemindars, what can be done in those cases?

Although a statement of the increase or decrease of assessment of villages be usually inserted in the wasil-baukee accounts, yet it shall be prepared and transmitted separately as directed.

A statement of the rent-free or exempted lands and villages, as also of nankar villages and lands, and of ready money nankar, with such sunnuds as may be found among the papers of the Canoongoes, shall be transmitted, but we cannot investigate the validity of any of the sunnuds in question.

The dustoor, and a mowazena of durbundee and biggethee of all such districts as possess any, shall be forwarded under the seal of the Seeghadars; but in many places they are not in use, and consequently cannot be obtained.

Detailed statements of sayer duties, with established rates of sayer, and a list of the different chowkies, shall be submitted under the seal of the Seeghadars.

The deductions are always stated in the wasil-baukee accounts of the villages; but a separate statement shall be prepared and transmitted agreeably to orders. We will also investigate into the beheree and present the particulars to the Presence.

Although the Itlak can be of no real use, yet, in conformity to your Excellency's orders, we will get it from the Aumil's Mutusuddies, and submit it to the Presence.

Agreeably to your Excellency's orders, we will attend to the rights of Zemindars, and will not transact business with any other person; and in cases of Zemindars' disputes, the sunnuds of both parties shall be examined, and copies of them, with a statement of the case, shall be submitted for your Excellency's decision.

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Aid shall be afforded to the farmers in the recovery of the balances which may be due to them from the Zemindars and others, agreeably to the engagements which they may have entered into. Those engagements shall be minutely inspected, and copies of them shall be transmitted to the Presence, under the signature of the Seeghadars; but the realization of all that may be due to the farmers from the Zemindar is impossible in all the month of Jeth, or even Assaur, because it is the custom in several mehals to withhold some of the instalments till the month of Sawun and Bhadoon, and consequently the balances can never be realized in Jeth or Assaur.

The mode laid down in the instructions for a triennial settlement may be adopted when Tehsildars shall be appointed, and the strictest orders may be issued to the Zemindars and principal Malgoozars to abide by their engagements with the cultivators and Assamees during the stipulated time; but it is totally impossible to make the Zemindars of this country accede to these proposals.

In the end of the month of Assaur, or when the Zemindars may be relieved from the demands of the present Aumils, we shall commence a personal tour and inspection of the districts, taking with us some intelligent persons acquainted with the state of the country, as ordered, and in the particular manner prescribed, &c., as in the words of the drafts.

A mowazena, or statement of the number of beegals in every district, ascertained by actual measurement, cannot possibly be furnished, in the short time which is prescribed, with any number of assistants.

The gross collections of the villages, under all their numerous heads, in which are included the expenses of the Zemindars and Talookadars, will never be furnished by the Putwarries, through fear of the Talookadars, until the Talookadars shall be expelled from the villages, or seized and put in confinement; and many of the Talookadars have no Putwarries in their Talookas, and consequently, in both cases, it will be impossible to perform this duty as your Excellency has been pleased to command.

The nuzzurana, douccurs, &c. &c. of the Aumils and other officers, which have been yearly and regularly paid to them by the Zemindars, may certainly be known from the papers in possession of the Seeghadars; but what has been given occasionally and secretly, to answer particular ends, can never, of course, be ascertained.

A statement of the monthly allowances and charges which may be required for Mutusuddies, Zillahdars, Peadas, Hircarrahs, and others, will be submitted to the Presence, when the name of the district and the rate of salary per lac shall be made known to us.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 9th May 1811.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 8th instant, conveying copies of the statements of six of the persons whom your Excellency has selected for the office of Ameen, and I have perused those statements with attention.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

As the several persons in question have engaged to perform most of the duties which were prescribed in their instructions, and have offered a valid excuse for their probable inability to furnish one or two of the papers described, such as the mowazena or measurement of the district, which would certainly require a considerable period of time, although other excuses which they have offered appear to me to be frivolous, I shall postpone my remarks upon those, and submit to your Excellency hereafter a mode of accomplishing the objects which they have pronounced to be unattainable, as well as more particular instructions for the guidance of Tehsildars on some points which the Ameens have referred to, and which are totally foreign to their duty.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Upon the whole, I am fully convinced that, after the business is fairly commenced, your Excellency will soon see and acknowledge the facility with which it will proceed, and the whole of the necessary documents be collected and transmitted to the Presence. I am only concerned to observe that your Excellency should allow yourself to be moved by such trifling impediments as those, which serve merely to procrastinate the important business in hand, and to occasion a loss of time which might otherwise be more profitably occupied. The division and subdivision of the country, in the manner suggested and approved, as the first indispensable step to the adoption of the subsequent measures, has not yet been arranged, I presume, or I should have been apprized of the arrangement; and yet this is a measure connected with your Excellency's records alone, which might have been settled in the course of a day, and followed up long ere now, if your Excellency had been so disposed, by the nomination and dispatch of the Ameens, so that, in the month, or more, which has already been unprofitably spent since the date of your Excellency's agreement, a considerable progress might have been made in the execution of the duties of the Ameens. Even now, if they be appointed and dispatched, a great deal may still be performed before the lapse of the season of investigation. I, therefore, repeat my expectation, that your Excellency will be pleased to announce to me the particulars of the division of the country, and of the appointment of the several Ameens, which must, ere this, I presume, have been determined, or otherwise that your Excellency will be pleased to give your attention to those important arrangements without any further delay.

With regard to what the Ameens have stated, respecting the custom in several meahuls of receiving the last instalments of revenue in the months of Sawun and Bhadoon, &c., it seems to me to be very surprizing, that they should have learned this circumstance so soon; but as, at all events, the continuance of the authority of the farmers till the end of the month of Bhadoon would, in my mind, be highly injurious to the progress and influence of the new system of assessment, I suggest for your Excellency's consideration, that the collection of those two instalments, in the districts where so pernicious a custom may prevail, be committed to the Ameens of those districts, and that credit for the amount of them be given to the several farmers, whose authority with their leases should cease in Assaur.

I return the statements of the Ameens, having taken a copy of them for the office.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 11th May 1811.)

I have received your letter of the 9th instant, in answer to mine of the 8th, with three arzees of the Ameens, copies of which have been returned by you.

With regard to what you have stated, that as the several persons in question have "engaged to perform most of the duties which were prescribed in their "instructions," &c., the case is this, that the plea advanced by the Ameens of their inability to furnish the mowazena, or measurement of the district, has been considered by you as a valid one, and you have not thought proper to dispute it; if therefore, the measurement of the district cannot be submitted to the Presence within the prescribed period, how can I agree to a settlement at the commencement of the ensuing year, from which loss will of necessity arise to me; or indeed, how can the settlement of all the Talookadars be accomplished? And further, if the revenue documents for the last ten years of each village distinctly cannot be procured in the Elakas of several Talookadars, which the Ameens have also declared to be impracticable, how, in this case, can the real jumma or assets of such Elakas be correctly ascertained? and if the registers of the collectors of kham or unsettled villages be not transmitted to the Presence, for which the Ameens have likewise offered an excuse, how can the real condition of those villages be made known?

You

You have further stated your conviction, that "when the business is fairly commenced, I shall soon see and acknowledge the facility with which it will proceed," (recapitulate; &c.).

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 June 1811.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Rest assured, that I have no hesitation whatever as to the introduction of the system recommended, and, on the contrary, that I am zealously employed in putting it into a train of adoption; but it was absolutely necessary that the contents of the draft of instructions should be clearly explained to the Ameens, and this being accordingly done, what they have submitted has been sent for your information. I have also issued orders to Dyakrishen to arrange all the documents in his hands, with a view to the division of my dominions, and such documents as he may possess he will of course arrange accordingly.

With regard to what you have stated of the delay in the nomination and dispatch of the Ameens, &c.

The appointment and dispatch of the Ameens is my sincere wish and intention, nor have I any desire to delay it; but as this is a business of importance, how can it be done in a hurry?

The Ameens must first receive their sunnuds from the Presence, and prepare the subordinate officers who are to accompany them; must give in their Hazir-Zaminy bonds, their tussuroof-zaminy obligations, and moochulkas; and having done so, they may be dispatched; in the accomplishment of this business hundreds of men will be employed. God grant that the new system be speedily introduced, and that my revenue may be increased by it, that the comfort and happiness of my subjects be established, and that no loss whatever be incurred by me in its progress.

With regard to what you have stated, that "it is very surprising that the Ameens should have so soon learned that it is customary in several mehauls to suspend the last instalments of revenue in the months of Sawun and Bhadoon," &c., the case is this: As the Ameens are inhabitants of my dominions, they are of course well informed of the above circumstance, which indeed is generally known.

With regard to what you have stated, that "if it be the custom in several of the mehauls of my dominions to collect the revenues in Bhadoon the Ameens can collect those instalments," &c.

I desire that you reconsider attentively the draft of the perwannahs to Aumils, in which they are directed to investigate the condition of such Zemindars as may be unable to liquidate their balances, in conjunction with the Ameens of their districts, and, in the event of their actual inability to take bonds from them, attended by the Chowdries and Canoongoes, that credit in account may hereafter be given to the Aumils for the balances of such Zemindars; thus the collection of balances from indigent Ryots only will be the duty of the Tehsildars to be hereafter appointed, and not the collection of instalments for Sawun and Bhadoon, the duty of the present Ameens; exclusive of which the Ameens have positively refused to collect any part of those instalments, and thus I shall suffer a heavy loss of my revenue, and several lacs of rupees will never be realized. How then can you recommend to me a measure, by the adoption of which I must sustain so heavy a loss? Formerly, in the draft of the perwannah addressed to Tehsildars, I deemed it proper to insert Assaur instead of Jeth, because the kistbundy from the Moostajers or farmers concludes with the month of Assaur; but now the Ameens having stated that instalments in many mehauls go on till Sawun and Bhadoon, it seems necessary that the period in the draft of the perwannahs to Aumils be altered for Sawun and Bhadoon, in order that I suffer no loss.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 June 1811.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 16th May 1811.)

I have received your letter of the 25th April, in answer to mine of the 21st of that month, containing your answers to my statement of apprehensions in the case of the deputation of Ameens, and introduction of the proposed system, together with three amended drafts of the proclamation and instructions to Aumils and Ameens.

You have stated, that my cordial concurrence in the propriety of the proposed measures, and sincere resolution of carrying them into complete effect, are all that can possibly be required to ensure advantage and success.

The case is this: That as, immediately on the introduction of the new system, the present settlement of the country must be entirely subverted, and no part of it can remain, and consequently the failure of the new system, or the delay or impossibility of carrying it into complete effect, must be productive of certain loss and injury to me; it follows, that a want of attention and diligence upon my part to give effect to the system in question, cannot on any ground be supposed. But with regard to a system of administration, the adoption and execution of which is extremely difficult and impracticable, my attention and diligence must of course be totally unavailing. If, on the other hand, you will be pleased to suggest such a plan for the administration of the proposed system, as shall be conformable with the terms of the treaty, compatible with the perfect exercise of my independent authority, so as that no injury nor falling off, the most minute, in my authority can be occasioned, nor any the smallest loss of revenue from whatever cause, can arise, and you satisfy me as to all those particulars; how then can I refuse to comply with and adopt your suggestions?

With regard to your observation, that my "rejection of certain clauses in the drafts, without stating the grounds of it, was contrary to your natural expectations, and that the insertion of the words, with the advice and concurrence of the British Government," &c., the case is this: The rejection of the sentences in question, and especially of the abovementioned words, cannot in reality be considered as effecting in any degree the particular object in view, namely, the introduction of the new system; but, on the contrary, those particular words must be considered as totally redundant: and having perused them with the minutest attention, I cannot, upon any principle, consent to their insertion in the drafts, nor shall they therefore be inserted. And with regard to your statement of the sentiments with which the British Government may view my rejection of those sentences, as you cannot fail to recollect that, at the commencement of this business, I stated to you my intention of perusing and altering the drafts, and discussing the terms of them with you before they should be finally admitted, notwithstanding which you transmitted them in their original state to the Presidency, I leave it to yourself to decide what answer I can make to your statement. Your alterations respecting expelled Zemindars in the draft of instructions to Ameens are approved and admitted, and I enclose my replies to your answers regarding the fears which I have expressed on the introduction of the new system.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosures in the
Vizier's Letter.

Replies to the Resident's Answers by His Excellency the Vizier. (Received with His Excellency's Letter of the 16th May 1811.)

You have stated, that "the farmers of the above-mentioned meahals have doubtless, in most instances, taken security from the landholders at the period of the settlement, and at all events now as the rubbee crop must be cut down," &c. The fact is this: That in those meahals both rules are adopted. From some security is taken, and from others it is not usual to demand security; consequently from such landholders as have not found security for their rents in the case of disorder arising from the new system, the dues of Government cannot be realized.

With regard to what you have stated, that "it is not necessary nor probable that the whole of the documents required should at once be submitted to the Presence," &c.

Bengal Political
Consultations
21 June 1811.

It does not seem to me to be possible to peruse such voluminous documents in time; and when you see the number of papers that will be received, you will be convinced of the impracticability of perusing them.

*Enclosure in the
Vizier's Letter.*

You have stated, that "the new system of assessment being much milder than the former, and tending evidently to the comfort and happiness of the Ryots, and to the ease and security of the landholders," &c.

Although the new system appear milder to you, and though it be also my wish that this system should be successfully administered, yet the fact is, that the Talookadars and the whole of the Zemindars in my dominions have long been in the habits of concealing and withholding the real assets of their lands; and the new system being calculated to bring those practices to light, and to expose the real capability of each particular estate, it is impossible, in my judgment, to expect that this system should be agreeable to them; and, on the contrary, I am greatly apprehensive that its introduction will cause the Zemindars to retire, nor can we possibly expect that it will be established in the manner we wish, since it has not yet been properly carried into effect in the Honourable Company's ceded and conquered provinces, although upwards of ten years have elapsed since its first introduction into those provinces. Of what avail, therefore, will be my cordial concurrence in a system, which it is impossible or extremely difficult to accomplish?

With respect to your observation, that "as the revenues of the country have been hitherto yearly collected under my authority, and consequently that the jumma of every district, as hitherto realized, may be known by a reference to the records," &c.

The revenue documents of such Elakas as may be found in my office may, of course, be compared with the documents furnished by the Ameens; but how are the documents of the Elakas to be examined respecting which I may have no records in the office; and in this case, how are the real assets of the whole of my dominions to be ascertained?

In answer to your observation, that "the perfection of any measure or system is not to be expected at once, but attainable by degrees," &c.

As you have yourself thus acknowledged the impracticability of the settlement of the whole country agreeably to the new system at once, and I also am thoroughly convinced that it is impossible, why not acquiesce in my proposition for commencing, by way of experiment, in one Elaka in the first instance; to which proposition you have hitherto declined to reply?

With regard to your remark, that "if the Ameens whom I have selected be really capable persons, and discharge the duties of their office," &c.

The best persons who could be found here after a diligent search have been fixed on for those offices, but they have declared the performance of some of the duties prescribed by the instructions to be impossible: and with respect to your observation, that "the whole of the Seeghadars must have Persian documents in their possession," &c., if this be really the case, the delay will not be so great as I have calculated, but otherwise the appointment of Amlah will be of no avail, and my present fears will be realized.

With regard to your remark that "you cannot conceive how the introduction of the new system," &c., my confidence is not at all increased by this remark, because whenever the Ameens shall be appointed to their respective districts, and it shall be known that on their arrival the authority of the present Tehsildars is to cease, it is impossible that disorder should not arise; and though I by no means wish to dispute further with you on the subject, yet my mind is by no means satisfied, and I cannot but expect loss and disorder in the country. But you will yourself witness the losses that I shall suffer by those measures. My fears on the subject have been explained to you, and every point on which I am dissatisfied has been written.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 June 1811.

With regard to what you state, that "if the system recommended," &c.

I have only to say, that whatever you have suggested has been done; and if, hereafter, any disturbance or disorder should arise, I look to the Honourable Company for its suppression.

With regard to your recommendation of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan.

The Hukeem and all other persons, who have regularly paid the revenue of the Sircar, shall be honoured by the commands of the Presence.

Dated 22d Rubbee-oos-sanee, 1226 Hijree, 16th May 1811.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 16th May 1811.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter dated the 11th instant, in reply to mine of the 9th.

As it is my decided opinion that any further altercation or correspondence regarding the excuses, whether valid or frivolous, alleged by the Ameens, can tend only to procrastinate the introduction of the salutary system of reform recommended by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council; as not one of those excuses of the Ameens, even admitting their validity, is of a nature to preclude the introduction of that system, or to impede its progress in the manner which the British Government desires, namely, to the immediate amelioration of the condition of your Excellency's landholders and peasantry, and to the consequent advantage of the State, as well as the future increase of its revenue; as, further, it can be no duty of my station to obviate the excuses of those Ameens selected by your Excellency exclusively, nor is the subject, in any point of view, a becoming subject of correspondence for your Excellency and me to engage in; in addition to which it is remarkable that two of those very Ameens, whose excuses your Excellency has furnished, were employed under my authority in Bundelcund, and performed all the duties which are now prescribed to them without the smallest objection or excuse, and to my entire satisfaction: under these circumstances, I can only repeat my suggestion of the expediency of your dispatching those Ameens, and others equally qualified, to every district of your dominions without any further delay; delivering to them, however, before their departure, the proclamations, purwannahs, and instructions, which I submitted to your Excellency in the terms of my original drafts.

A perpetual, or even a decennial settlement of the revenue, which would require a minute investigation to ascertain the real assets of the lands, has not been recommended to your Excellency, nor is it advisable for the present; on the contrary, a triennial settlement, at a moderate rate of assessment, for the purpose of giving confidence to the Zemindars and peasantry, and encouraging the cultivation of the soil, is all that has been suggested to your Excellency, and all that our Government would recommend; and for this beneficial purpose, the duties engaged for by those six Ameens, and the documents which they have promised to furnish, if executed and prepared with fidelity and zeal, in the spirit and terms of my instructions, by all the officers whom your Excellency may appoint, will, in my mind, be amply sufficient. And further, a triennial settlement, proceeding on the labours of those Ameens, if concluded agreeably to my suggestions, will fully answer the ends which the British Government, and your Excellency I trust, have in view, by the introduction of the new system, in its commencement.

To conclude: as your Excellency must recollect, that in the early stage of this discussion, with the manifest view of precluding those altercations which have now taken place, and facilitating the progress of the reform, I suggested to you, in an earnest manner, the selection and appointment of Ameens and other officers with my previous knowledge and concurrence, and your Excellency rejected that suggestion, it follows as a necessary consequence, that your
Excellency,

Excellency, in calling upon me to obviate the excuses which those Ameens may be taught, or may think proper, to submit, is imposing on the British Government a task which we are not bound to perform, and which on my part would be endless and impracticable.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 June 1811.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. His Excellency the Vice-President in Council has perused with great interest and attention your despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting in continuation your proceedings and your communications with the Nawaub vizier, on the subject of the meditated reform of the internal administration of the country. His Excellency in Council considers you to have manifested in the progress of your proceedings the same degree of meritorious energy and ability that has distinguished their commencement; and Government has only to regret that the object of your exertions has necessarily been not merely to devise and regulate the details of a new and improved system of assessment and collection, but principally to remove the objections, and counteract the obstacles which the Vizier himself, either openly or secretly, has opposed to the introduction of it.

2. It is evident that the Vizier, while he admits the necessity of a reform because he can neither deny the facts nor resist the arguments on which that necessity is founded, and while he acknowledges the obligation imposed on him by treaty of executing such reform at the suggestion and with the advice of the British Government, does not desire that it should take effect, and that, under the influence of this disposition, his efforts are employed to render the proposed system abortive, by means consistent with an ostensible solicitude to promote the success of it.

3. It is to be apprehended, that the inclination of his mind will lead him, and his unlimited means of clandestine influence and control will enable him to realize all the difficulties and impediments which he has represented as opposing the practicability of the meditated plan of reform, but which do not really belong to it. He will then be disposed to triumph in the fulfilment of his predictions, to charge the British Government, as in fact he does at present, with the pursuit of a chimerical system of theoretical improvement, tending only to produce confusion and loss of revenue, and to deduce, from its failure, the practical superiority of that mode of assessment and collection which, having been established from distant time, is, however defective, best adapted to the habits and genius of the people, and best calculated to realize the resources of the country.

4. In truth, those enlarged principles of polity which embrace a consideration for the comfort and happiness of the people, which provide for the security of the rights and property of the subjects of the realm, for their protection against the abuses of power, for the control of injustice and oppression, which reject the allurements of immediate pecuniary advantage in favour of the more distant but solid benefits arising from the purity of the administration and the general prosperity of the country, are foreign to the character of the Vizier, and adverse to the natural propensities of his mind and disposition. These now appear to be too firmly established to admit of the expectation which Government was willing originally to indulge, that they might be made to yield to the force of argument and reason, addressed to an understanding certainly of no ordinary class, and supported by all the influence of the British power, the stipulations of treaty, and your zealous and able agency.

5. These reflections, which His Excellency in Council is reluctantly compelled to form, but which the general tenor of your reports, and especially the contents of your despatch, now acknowledged, naturally suggest, preclude any sanguine expectation of the ultimate success of your efforts for the attainment of the important objects of the Governor-General in Council's instructions of the 28th December. The purpose of stating these reflections, however, is not to discourage

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Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 June 1811.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

rage the continuance of your efforts, but partly to afford you the satisfaction of knowing that the Vice-President in Council is fully aware of the difficulties which oppose them, and will not be disposed to ascribe their too probable failure to any defect of ability, or exertion, on your part, and partly to place you on your guard against those arts, by which the just and benevolent intentions of the British Government, in urging the reform, might be converted into the charge of having occasioned a material defalcation of his Excellency's revenues, and involved his country in confusion, by effecting the subversion of a long established system of assessment and collection, without substituting another, either efficient in its operation or adequate to the purposes for which it was proposed. While you persevere in your endeavours, therefore, to accomplish, at least, a partial reform of the Vizier's administration, you will be careful not to suffer the effects of his Excellency's open, or clandestine, obstruction to be charged upon the inefficacy of the system itself, as recommended to his adoption.

6. I am directed to add, that the explanation contained in the sixth paragraph of your letter, on the subject of the resumption of the farms, is entirely satisfactory to his Excellency in Council.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
21st June 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 July 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 5th July 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. At a conference with his Excellency the Vizier on the morning of the 25th ultimo, referred to in my despatch of the 28th, I used every argument that I could think of to remove the groundless apprehensions which his Excellency had thought proper to urge as a pretext for postponing the arrangements for the necessary reform in his administration.

2. I stated to him, that the result of our conference on the 4th of April last, before quitting Lucknow, and particularly, the gracious manner in which that conference ended, had impressed me with the firmest belief of his being at length happily convinced of the necessity of a general reform in his Government, and of his having approved, and resolved on conviction to adopt, the principal measures which I had suggested for that purpose. That every one of the measures in question had been discussed at considerable length ; nay, that the drafts of the proclamation and instructions had been many days in his Excellency's possession, and must, of course, have been frequently perused, before the date of his engagement to give effect to the several arrangements, which he seemed now to be labouring to subvert. That the apprehensions, doubts, and excuses, which he had subsequently thought proper to detail, had they existed at the date of his engagements, would doubtless have been stated at that time, and however groundless and imaginary they appeared, might then have been entitled to consideration ; though even then, it was sufficiently obvious that they could not have been successfully pleaded in bar of the fulfilment of obligations which former treaties imposed. That the obligation to establish an improved system of administration in his Excellency's reserved dominions, as expressed in the Treaty of Cession, was manifestly absolute, and unqualified by any provision whatever for the removal of doubts or apprehensions which its fulfilment might subsequently induce.

That his Excellency's engagement with Marquess Wellesley to advise with the British Government, and to conform to its counsels, in the establishment of an improved system of administration, was equally positive and unconditional ; and that, finally, the four principal and most important points of his agreement with me, under date the 4th of April, were as absolute and unqualified in their terms as any of the foregoing engagements. Under these circumstances,

stances, it was obvious, I maintained, that his Excellency's statement of doubts delivered on the 21st of April, had been exhibited a great deal too late to entitle it even to a hearing, as a pretext for delaying the arrangements to which he had previously agreed; and that the attention which I had bestowed on that statement, from motives of respect for his Excellency, or the endeavours which I had made, and was now about to make, for the removal of his imaginary fears, could not, on any principle, be considered as a dereliction, in the smallest degree, of my title to insist on the performance of every one of his engagements.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 July 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. Having applied the foregoing remarks as a precaution against any improper advantage which the Vizier might be disposed to take of my continuing the discussion of his doubts, I proceeded to re-examine the grounds of the various objections which he had stated, in the order in which they are detailed in the enclosure of his Excellency's letter under date the 16th May.

4. As a prelude to the examination and exposition of the frivolous objections which he had urged, I adverted to the extraordinary remark, which is contained in his Excellency's letter giving cover to the document in question, having reference to the insertion of the words "*with the advice and concurrence of the British Government*," in the drafts of the proclamation and instructions. "Your Excellency's objection to the above clause in the drafts," I observed, "is conveyed in the following terms—'The rejection of the abovementioned words cannot be considered as affecting in any degree the particular object in view, but, on the contrary, those words must be considered as totally redundant,' (that is I presume neither useful nor injurious to the object,) 'and therefore you have determined to reject them.' Is it not singular, I will ask your Excellency, and does it not obviously admit of an inference hostile to your avowed sentiments of friendship for the British Government, as well as desire to conform with its advice, that the rejection of a clause in a public document, which I have pronounced to be essential to the success of the contemplated arrangements, should be accompanied by an admission on your own part, that the clause is merely redundant, neither useful nor injurious to the important purposes in view; and if such be the nature of your Excellency's cavil against a public declaration to your subjects of the legitimate source from which a reform in your administration should spring, namely, the united and identified counsels and interests of your own and the Company's Government, what reasonable hope can be entertained of your Excellency's cordial concurrence in any of the subsequent measures?"

5. His Excellency interrupted me here, for the purpose, as it appeared, of explaining to me the real motive for his rejection of the abovementioned clause in the drafts. "If these words be admitted," he observed, "my subjects will immediately infer, that the remaining part of my dominions, like the ceded territory, has been transferred to the Honourable Company, and that nothing remains to me but a name."

My answer to such an argument as this can scarcely require to be recorded. "Every measure of the meditated reform," I observed, "is to be adopted under your Excellency's exclusive authority, every officer to be employed is a person of your own selection, as well as a natural subject of your government. The reports of those officers are to be made exclusively to yourself; their conduct to be judged of by you; the revenues of the country, as usual, to be paid into your Excellency's treasury; your dominions and your authority over them secured under the Company's guarantee to yourself, your heirs, and successors."

6. The above answer receiving no immediate reply, I proceeded to the examination of his Excellency's doubts, with a reference to the measures of reform.

1st. "In some meahauls security is taken, and in others it is not usual; consequently, from such landholders as have not given security, the dues of Government will not be realized."

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 July 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To an objection so indefinite as this, I observed, it could only be necessary to offer an answer in general terms, namely, that for the just dues of the Government, in cases where the Aumils had neglected to obtain personal and collateral security, the only security which existed was the proceeds of the crop on the ground, and that this could not at all be affected by the appointment of Ameens to investigate the state of the districts; in addition to which, the delay that had already occurred in the appointment and deputation of Ameens would preclude their arrival in their districts till the season of collection for the current year was at an end.

2d. " Although the new system appear milder to you, yet the Talookadars and the whole of the Zemindars in my dominions having been long in the habits of concealing and withholding the real assets of the lands, and the new system being calculated to bring those practices to light, &c., I am apprehensive that its introduction will cause the Zemindars to retire; nor can we expect that it will be established as we wish, since it has not yet been properly carried into effect in the Honourable Company's provinces after the lapse of a period of ten years."

" The intention of this argument," I replied, " in as far as I understand it, is to oppose the wisdom and justice, as well as the practicability, of a reform in the system of assessment and collection of the revenue in your Excellency's dominions. The landholders and peasantry of your country are stated to be the oppressors, the embezzlers of your revenue; the government to be the sufferer and the oppressed. Your Excellency has been pleased to arraign the wisdom and justice of the Company's administration in its own territory, to assert that disorder exists in the ceded provinces after all the labour and attention which have been bestowed on them during a period of ten years, and to infer from those premises, that we meditate additional disorder in your dominions and a loss of revenue to yourself. Is this a true picture of the relative condition of your Excellency's and the British dominions? Has the manifest and avowed system of coercion and arbitrary exaction, which prevailed and does now prevail throughout Oude, supported for a series of years by a numerous irregular army at the beck of a mercenary farmer, and of late years by a British regular force, yearly, nay constantly employed in the suppression of refractory Zemindars and demolition of all the strong-holds in the country, left the power as well as the inclination in the landholders to resist the just demands of the State, or to embezzle any part of its revenues? and is the alleged practice of concealing and withholding the real assets of the lands compatible, in any degree, with the alleged efficiency of your Excellency's present Aumils, supported as they have constantly been by detachments of the British troops, both at the periods of their assessment and collections? Are the condition of the landholders and peasantry of Oude, the facility of the collection of its revenue, the state of the country at large, to be compared with those of the Company's provinces, where not a sepoy, far less an army, is ever employed to support the assessment or collections, and where the gradual increase of the revenue, as well as the happiness of the people, is secured by the influence of the system proposed, under certain necessary modifications, for your Excellency's immediate adoption? The answers to those questions, I trust, if your Excellency consider them candidly, although many more of a similar tendency might be asked, will be a ready and ingenuous disavowal of the apprehensions which you have hitherto entertained."

At the words " gradual increase of the revenue" his Excellency interrupted me, to state that this increase might be otherwise accounted for by reflecting on the low valuation at which the Ceded Provinces had been transferred; and I answered, that there were no documents nor authentic information before me, to establish or controvert this assertion generally, but that, with a reference to the district of Rohilcund, the fact was certainly otherwise.

3d. His Excellency's third ground of apprehension, I observed, was like the first, indefinite as well as frivolous, and seemed totally unworthy of a reply.

" The

"The revenue documents of such districts as may be found in my office may be compared, &c., but how are the documents to be examined of those districts respecting which I may have no records?"

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Did his Excellency wish to be supposed ignorant, or to want the means of ascertaining the amount of the revenue hitherto derived from any district in his dominions; and if he were really ignorant, what argument did this ignorance afford, save for the necessity of an immediate investigation, in the manner which I had proposed. Regarding the conclusion of this part of his Excellency's objections, namely, "his proposal for commencing by way of experiment in one district in the first instance," I observed, that it was, in my own opinion, totally nugatory and vain, as well as in direct opposition to the tenor of my instructions, and of the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency, and was therefore out of the question. His Excellency had manifestly the power, and I feared also the inclination, of perverting such a partial experiment as this into an argument for the continuance of the present vicious system, by frustrating the beneficial arrangements suggested in any one district of his dominions, and even by sacrificing a portion of the revenue of that district for the attainment of the object in view.

4th. The fourth ground of apprehension had a reference to the excuses of the Ameens, and to the difficulty of rendering the revenue documents into Persian; and as all the excuses of the Ameens had been already satisfactorily discussed in my letter of the 16th of May, to which his Excellency had not favoured me with an answer, I considered that portion of the subject to be exhausted.

5th. The fifth and last ground of apprehension, namely, disorder to be generally excited in the country by the supersession of so many public officers at once, on the appointment and deputation of an Ameen to every district in the country, appearing somewhat more specious and plausible than any of the foregoing pretexts, gave rise to a longer discussion. I observed, in the first place, to his Excellency, that the whole force of the argument on his part, with a reference to this ground of alarm, was deduced from the unhappy procrastination ascribable solely to himself, in the adoption of the salutary measure which I had originally proposed to him so far back as the 9th of March.

At the period to which I alluded, the Rubbee harvest was still standing, or cut down under attachment by the Aumils, and guarded by the Sebundee troops of the State. The landholders were all in attendance for the purpose of concluding their settlements. Many, if not all of them, had given bonds for their personal appearance, when called for, during the remainder of the season of assessment and collection of the revenue; and all of them had that obvious interest in the produce of the harvest on the ground, which would have secured their personal attendance, and precluded disorders in their districts till the actual arrival of the Ameens, and the promulgation of his Excellency's proclamations should have inspired confidence in their minds, and have put an end to every rational fear of any future insurrection or commotion. Even supposing the inclination, in a few turbulent landholders, to take advantage of the meditated change for the purpose of exciting disorder in their districts, still the season of the year was then by no means so advanced as to preclude the employment of troops for the purpose of suppressing such disorders; and it was unnecessary for me to remark, with what genuine satisfaction I should, under those circumstances, have complied with any requisition from his Excellency for the aid of the Company's forces. The present advanced period of the year, I admitted, and the approach of the periodical rains, though they gave no ground whatever for the fear of insurrection or commotion in consequence of the deputation of Ameens, might tend greatly to limit the exertions of those officers in the investigation committed to their charge, and the advantages of those exertions; since many obstacles might be opposed to the investigation and collection of papers by the intrigues of the present Aumils, if permitted to remain in authority in the districts till the end of Sawun or Bhadoon, as his Excellency proposed, as well as by the occupation of the landholders and peasantry in the necessary duties of husbandry during the rains, by their known aversion to attending on the officers of

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of Government during those months, the want of efficient support on the part of the Ameens, and finally, the local circumstances of the districts. But all these disadvantages, I maintained, were by no means of a nature to preclude or suspend the adoption of the meditated arrangements, nor to limit the beneficial effects which must ultimately and permanently flow from them; while, on the other hand, the disadvantages in question, or any other difficulty, which might occur in the execution of the proposed arrangements, being ascribable solely to his Excellency's own procrastination, could, on no principle, be admitted as a valid pretext for a refusal to fulfil his engagements.

7. Some further and more general conversation ensued on the subject of his Excellency's engagements, during which he repeatedly recognized and admitted the obligation of all his agreements with me, and expressed his desire to fulfil them, if a mode of fulfilling them could be devised to remove the principal apprehensions which still preyed on his mind, namely, the fear of disorder in the country, and of a diminution of his independent authority; and by this conversation we were led to a retrospective perusal of the four articles of agreement contained in his Excellency's amended replies of the 4th of April last.

8. Those articles of agreement I now proceeded to abstract for his Excellency's reconsideration, connecting each article in its turn with one of the four fundamental principles of reform, as stated in the instructions of the Government, under date the 28th of December, as follows: viz.

First. A division and subdivision of his dominions into Zillahs and mehaults, with a view to facilitate the adoption of all the subsequent arrangements. This preliminary measure his Excellency declared to be totally unobjectionable, as far as it was practicable, and offered of his own accord to send his Dewan, Diakrishen, to me for the purpose of concluding the arrangement.

Secondly. The deputation of Ameens to all the mehaults, to investigate the state of the country and collect revenue documents, with a view to the moderate assessment of the lands. To the immediate and universal adoption of this measure his Excellency opposed his apprehension of general disorder in the country by the supersession of all his officers at once, and also his engagements with some farmers who deserved well of his Government, and whose districts were in excellent order. This latter objection by his Excellency occasioned an inquiry, on my part, into the number and extent of the engagements to which he alluded, and an observation that, if I were rightly informed, the whole of the leases in question were now about to expire, and that, indeed, the practice of his Government, in as far as I had observed it, had always restricted those leases to the term of a single year. His Excellency admitted this fact generally, adverted also to the recent death of one of his principal farmers, and mentioned particularly the districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, under the charge of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, whose lease did not certainly expire, he observed, with the present fusly year, though *he was ignorant of the term of its duration*. From his Excellency's further remarks, I gathered, that a moiety, if not more, of his dominions was already under the management of *amaunee Aumils*, or officers corresponding in some degree in their functions with those employed by our Government as Ameens; and this circumstance suggested a proposal, which I was about to make for the removal of his Excellency's apprehensions, when he interrupted me by stating it himself, namely, that the investigation and collection of revenue papers, should be committed to the officers already employed in those districts, under the instructions which I had suggested, and with the further benefit of the proclamation in his Excellency's amended terms. By this arrangement he admitted that a number of his apprehensions would be removed; and it was agreed that this proposal should be committed to writing, and maturely considered by his Excellency, who promised to signify his determination in the course of a few days.

The third and fourth articles of agreement were now read to his Excellency, namely, a provision for a triennial settlement with the landholders, &c., at a moderate rate of assessment, under a gradation of engagements for that period, to be guaranteed by the Government, and ultimately the establishment of a court of justice and efficient police in each Zillah, when the settlement of the revenue

revenue should be concluded. To both those articles his Excellency implicitly adhered; and our conference of the 25th ultimo broke up with a promise, on my part, of submitting the heads of it in writing in the course of that or the following day.

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9. In the evening of the same day I transmitted accordingly to his Excellency an abstract of the heads of our conference, a copy of which is enclosed; and on the 29th ultimo I had the honour of receiving from his Excellency an answer to that abstract, a translation of which is enclosed, and in which the Honourable the Vice-President in Council will not fail to observe that his Excellency the Vizier has still professed his adherence to all the articles of agreement, though the fulfilment of them be declared to be dependent on the removal of a few remaining apprehensions, for which his Excellency has been pleased to refer me to documents already in my possession, having no connection whatever with the modified arrangement proposed.

10. In reply to this latter reference, so characteristic of the Vizier's disposition, and to some other objections which he has offered in his answer to the abstract of our conference, I thought it my duty to address a letter to him, under date the 30th ultimo, a copy of which is enclosed, requiring an explicit detail of all his remaining objections; and to this letter I have not hitherto been favoured with a reply.

11. His Excellency's health has been recently reported to me, by himself and by several others, to be affected in some degree by the extraordinary occupation of his mind in the progress of this discussion, or by casual imprudences of his own, and this circumstance, combined with the death of a grand-daughter and one of his sisters, has precluded my urging him for a reply to my letter of the 30th ultimo, or bringing any other important question under his view.

12. I shall, however, take an early opportunity of soliciting the favour of a reply to my letter above noticed, and of urging the immediate adoption of the several measures of reform, and I shall not fail to apprise you of the result of those proceedings, for the further information of the Government.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th June 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

*Abstract of the Heads of a Conference with His Excellency the Vizier, the
25th May 1811.*

Enclosure in
Resident's Letter.

1st. Recalled to his Excellency's recollection the four fundamental and indispensable principles which must form the basis of a reform in his administration, namely; First, A just and moderate assessment of the revenue to be settled with all the landholders of the country; Secondly, A settlement for a fixed term, not less than three years; Thirdly, The conclusion of engagements, in regular gradation, from the Aumil to the Ryot; and Fourthly, The guarantee of those engagements by the Government, and the establishment of a mode of obtaining redress in the case of a departure from those engagements.

2d. His Excellency, reminded of his absolute and unconditional engagements, voluntarily entered into with me, to give effect to the foregoing principles to which his engagements had reference, as follows: viz. First, A division and subdivision of his country into Zillahs, or departments, and meahuls. Secondly, The appointment and deputation of an Ameen to each mehaul, for the purpose of ascertaining its condition and collecting the revenue papers, with a provision that those papers should be submitted to my inspection, and if approved, should form the basis of a triennial settlement. Thirdly, The conclusion of a triennial settlement, under a gradation of engagements from the Tehsildar to the Ryot, with a provision that those engagements should be submitted for my inspection and satisfaction, in every case of a requisition for the aid of British troops to coerce the landholders or others; and Fourthly, The establishment of courts of justice and an efficient police in all the Zillahs and meahuls.

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Resident's Letter.

3d. His Excellency entreated to reflect on the obvious impossibility of his having been influenced by the extraordinary fears and apprehensions which are detailed in his recent letters at the time when he voluntarily and cheerfully entered into the foregoing engagements with me, since the fulfilment of any of those engagements, or the observance of any one of the fundamental principles of reform, seems totally incompatible with the existence of the apprehensions now entertained; while, on the other hand, a dereliction of any of the foregoing engagements, on my part, and a removal of his Excellency's doubts and apprehensions, all of which are, in my mind, imaginary and groundless, must appear to be equally impracticable. For example, if his Excellency assert that the deputation of Ameens will occasion loss of revenue, and as no loss of revenue, either present or future, must be incurred, that the Ameens cannot be deputed; and I answer to this objection, that a trifling present loss, even admitted, as the ordinary consequence of a reform, if tending to great and manifest future advantage, is in reality no loss whatever, and his Excellency persist in indulging a groundless apprehension, or maintaining an unestablished assertion, what argument can in such a case be applied? Again, if his Excellency assert that the system of assessment proposed to him has been tried in the Ceded Provinces for a period of ten years and has failed; nay, that the Ceded Provinces are now in disorder, and consequently that a similar system must create disorder in his dominions, and I answer to this objection, that the system in question has been entirely successful, that the Ceded Provinces are in perfect order, that agreeably to treaty we are entitled to require the adoption of similar measures in Oude, and that the success of those measures is easy and certain, if his Excellency will but concur in them; and his Excellency's reply to those arguments, that his fears are by no means removed; what further remedy can be offered for apprehensions so totally groundless? Yet such is the manifest nature of every doubt which his Excellency has urged. And those doubts and apprehensions being inconsistent with his Excellency's engagements, the alterations further which he has thought proper to make in the drafts that I submitted to him, being destructive of the objects of those drafts, I cannot possibly consider the deputation of Ameens, under such circumstances, and with such modifications of the drafts, as a fulfilment of his Excellency's engagements; more particularly under the influence of the assertion which his Excellency has been pleased to add, that in so deputing the Ameens he is acting by my advice, on the nature of which assertion I beg his Excellency to reflect.

4th. If the Ameens are not to be deputed in the manner, and with the proclamation, instructions, &c., suggested by me, what then is to be done, and how are his Excellency's engagements to be fulfilled? Under this head, a proposal mutually suggested for the purpose of obviating the apprehension of disorder, and loss of revenue, by the appointment of Ameens, namely, that, a large portion of the country being already *amancee*, the persons now in office be employed to collect the necessary papers under instructions agreeable to my draft. That in the districts now farmed, and of which the leases expire with the present year, such as the districts lately under Khanazad Khan, and Baraitch (the farmer being dead), &c., the measure of deputing Ameens, agreeably to my plan, be adopted, or some other equally effectual means of investigation be pursued, under his Excellency's exclusive authority, without advice or responsibility on my part; and with regard to Khyrabad and Mohumdie, the lease of which has some time to run, and cannot therefore be broken without the consent of the farmer, that his Excellency shall satisfy the farmer, for the sake of uniformity in his administration, and institute the necessary investigation in the manner above proposed.

5th. His Excellency finally reminded of the obvious propriety of answering the Governor-General's letter without delay.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

His

His Excellency the Vizier's Answers to the Heads of Conference submitted by the Resident. (Received the 29th May 1811.)

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Enclosure in
Resident's Letter.

The first, second, and third fundamental principles, as stated in the heads of conference, coinciding with the articles of agreement which I transmitted to you on the 4th April last, I agree to. The fourth principle, respecting the guarantee of the engagements with the landholders and cultivators is also agreed to, to this effect, that the observance of the engagements in question will be under the guarantee of the Presence; and in the case of any breach of those engagements, redress shall be afforded to the Ryots under my authority.

The division and subdivision of the country, also the deputation of Ameens, the triennial settlement, and the introduction of the new system in the terms of the articles of agreement under date 4th of April, are all agreeable to the Presence; but as there is a small difference between what you have now submitted and the terms of my engagements abovementioned, I can only abide by those terms; and in the introduction of the new system, the removal of my doubts and fears is necessary according to promise. The insertion of those sentences, which I rejected from your drafts, cannot be admitted, because it will be productive of injurious effects.

With regard to the proposal for committing the investigation and collection of papers in the several districts, which are *amaunee*, to the officers already in charge, the adoption of this measure will certainly obviate many of my fears; but even then, a few of the doubts which are stated in the document before transmitted will still remain: and with regard to the investigation and collection of papers in the mehaults that are now farmed, by deputing Ameens as you suggest, if Ameens be deputed to those mehaults, the same fears and apprehensions will arise.

With regard again to Khyrabad and Mohumdie, there are three years and four months of the lease to expire; but I shall issue orders on the subject to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, and forward his answer for your information.

In short, I still abide by all that I have written to you on this subject, and an answer to the Governor-General's letter shall be prepared, when all these matters shall be settled.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier, 6th Jemadee-ool-awul 1226, 30th May 1811.

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's written answer to the personal communication which I made to you on the first of the month of Jemadee-ool-awul (25th May), an abstract of which was subsequently submitted to you in writing, as a reply to your Excellency's letter of the 22d of Rubbee-oos-sanee (16th May) and to the document which was enclosed in that letter

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Your Excellency having been pleased to remark that the abstract in question differs in a small degree from the contents of the articles of agreement under date 9th of Rubbee-ool-awul (4th April) I beg that your Excellency will specify the difference to which you allude, that I may explain it without any delay.

Your Excellency having further observed, that you cannot consent to the insertion of those words in the drafts, because they involve injurious consequences, and there being nothing further from my intention, and that of the British Government, than to insist on any measure productive of injurious effects, I request that your Excellency will detail to me the injurious consequences in your contemplation from the insertion of those words in the drafts.

Again, your Excellency having stated that, though the adoption of the new measures proposed with a reference to the *amaunee* Aumils would certainly remove a number of your doubts, yet that certain others described in the original document would still remain in your mind; as, previously to the conference
alluded

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alluded to, no mention whatever was made of the plan of issuing orders to the *amaunee* Aumils and renters whose leases are about to expire, that should have created doubts in your Excellency's mind regarding the effects of this measure, I beg that your Excellency will now be pleased to explain to me, in detail, the few remaining doubts to which you have here alluded.

With respect to what your Excellency says regarding Hukeem Mehdi Alec Khan, of whose lease a period of three years and four months is stated to remain, &c. &c., as your Excellency designs to address the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council after the whole of the discussion shall have been concluded, I hope that you will lose no time in settling this matter also with the Hukeem, and apprizing me of the result, that I may communicate to your Excellency what to my judgment may seem proper, after a deliberate review of the whole of the circumstances under discussion.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

In pursuance of the intention which was stated to you in the concluding paragraph of my despatch of the 12th instant, and having reason to believe that his Excellency the Vizier, misled by the pernicious and interested counsels of his present sole adviser, Hukeem Mehdi, to whose advice he has seemingly abandoned himself during the last two months, had determined on evading a reply to my letter of the 30th ultimo, and was preparing an answer to the Governor-General's letter in terms which I could not but disapprove, I considered it to be my duty to address a letter to his Excellency, in strong but respectful language, pointing out to him the extraordinary delay which had taken place in the fulfilment of his engagements, and requiring his immediate adoption of the principal measures of reform.

2. A copy of the letter which I addressed to his Excellency on this occasion is transmitted for the information of the Government ; and the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, in perusing this document, will observe that with the view of rendering the immediate adoption of the important measures in contemplation more agreeable to his Excellency the Vizier, I thought it proper to make two concessions to his Excellency, in the hope that, by those concessions, every possible objection might be removed, and his cordial concurrence ensured in all the subsequent arrangements.

3. Those concessions are, first, the point of deputing new Ameens to the districts ; in lieu of which I have agreed to his Excellency's recent proposal for committing the investigation of the state of the districts, and the collection of revenue papers, to the Aumils now in authority, under the new character of Ameens, and with the benefit of the proclamations and instructions ; and, secondly, my acquiescence in the alteration proposed by his Excellency the Vizier in my original draft of the proclamation, namely, in his omission of the words " with the advice and concurrence of the British Government."

4. I have been influenced in the first of those concessions by a consideration of the sentiments of the Government, conveyed in your despatch of the 3d of May last, with regard to the original question of my participation in the choice of Ameens, and by the obvious reflection, arising out of those sentiments, that if the British Government were not entitled to a voice in the appointment of officers to execute the measures of reform, it was of little consequence to us whether the duties of the Ameens should be performed by the officers already in charge, or by new officers of the Vizier's independent selection ; while, on the other hand, the satisfaction of his Excellency's mind was a manifest advantage to be gained by this voluntary concession on my part : and as the proceedings of the investigation proposed, whether conducted by new Ameens or by the present incumbents, would still be submitted to my inspection, and subject to my

my ultimate approval, the real extent of the concession was a matter of small consideration, in comparison with the advantage to be gained.

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5. To the second concession I was urged partly by a doubt excited in my own mind, of our positive right to demand the insertion of the words in question in a public proclamation to be issued under the Vizier's seal to his subjects, partly by the nature, however frivolous, of his Excellency's objections to their insertion, and partly by reflecting that the general objects and result of the discussions between his Excellency and me would soon be universally known throughout Oude, and would of themselves produce the conviction, which it was my particular wish to inspire, that, the measures of reform in this country being dictated by British counsels, the future details of those measures, and the engagements to be executed under them, would be influenced by the same counsels, and entitled in a certain respect to the Honourable Company's guarantee, or that, at all events, a general knowledge among the people of the source from which the new system of administration had sprung, would operate as a caution to the public officers of this Government, and to the principal classes of its subjects, against a future departure from their engagements, or a breach of their duties to the State.

6. My letter to his Excellency the Vizier, as conveying those concessions so apparently conducive to his satisfaction, might have naturally been expected to produce a cordial concurrence, on his part, in the adoption of the modified arrangements, and a sincere disposition to facilitate, by all the means in his power, the progress of the measures of reform.

7. With equal mortification and concern I report, for the information of the Government, that they have hitherto apparently produced a directly opposite effect. His Excellency's answer to my letter received on the 16th instant, (a translation of which is enclosed,) is in my judgment a production characteristic truly of his Excellency's mind and disposition in every other respect, save that it wants the usual gloss of artfulness to cover his habitual evasion, and conveys, what I do not yet suppose him to entertain, a fixed and determined resolution of departing from his solemn engagements.

8. It were a useless occupation of time to canvas the various absurdities, inconsistencies, and unsupported assertions, with which this short letter abounds.

The plea on which his Excellency has attempted to evade a satisfactory reply to my letter of the 30th ultimo, by referring me to his statement of his doubts, having obvious and exclusive reference to a former stage of the discussion, and to circumstances totally different from those under which my letter was written, is a sufficient specimen of the whole force of his argument for suspending the fulfilment of his engagements; and the advantage which he has attempted to take of a short letter from me, conveying a remonstrance against the partial and nugatory commencement of the general measures of reform, is alike descriptive of his character and of his reasoning in the present negotiation.

9. I lost no time in preparing and transmitting a reply to the extraordinary production in question; and by the terms of my reply to his Excellency, (a copy of which is enclosed,) I have, to the best of my ability and judgment, refuted every argument which he has used, and removed every reasonable objection to the immediate fulfilment of his engagements.

10. The effect of this last letter remains yet to be seen. I cannot relinquish the hope of his Excellency's being ultimately induced to evince a cordial concurrence in the just views of the Government, for his own eminent advantage, as well as the comfort and happiness of his people; and I am further encouraged to indulge this expectation by reflecting, that the expiration of the current fiscal year will shortly of itself supersede the existing revenue arrangements, and that, as his Excellency can scarcely entertain the design of renewing the leases of the farmers, in direct opposition to the advice of the British Government, as conveyed by the Governor-General's letter, nor can he propose to himself at any future period the support of the British troops to the exercise of the present system of his administration, he must soon see the necessity of

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adopting the measures of reform, or of sacrificing wantonly a large portion of his revenue.

11. I have this day announced to his Excellency my intention of waiting on him at breakfast on the morning of the 22d instant; and I shall take that opportunity of soliciting his serious attention to the circumstances above stated, which may hitherto have escaped his observation.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th June 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written 20th Jemadee-ool-awul 1226, or 13th June 1811).

Two months and eleven days have elapsed since I had the honour of receiving from your Excellency the articles of agreement contained in your letter to my address, under date the 9th of Rubbee-ool-awul (4th of April).

In the paper containing those articles, your Excellency, after mature deliberation and discussion, declared your unqualified assent to four fundamental measures which I had suggested for your adoption, and which are detailed in the document in question, as well as in the abstract of our conference on the 1st of Jemadee-ool-awul (25th of May).

When, after the lapse of nearly twenty days, your Excellency was pleased to convey to me some doubts which seemed subsequently to have arisen in your mind, with a reference to the adoption of those measures, although it was by no means incumbent on me to enter on the discussion of your doubts regarding measures which you had absolutely agreed to, yet, from motives of respect for your Excellency, I have been induced, both in writing and conversation, to exhaust every possible argument which the nature of the subject afforded, for the removal of the apprehensions which you described.

Under these circumstances, I leave it to your Excellency to determine, whether or not the delay which has hitherto taken place in the fulfilment of your Excellency's engagements, can be ascribed to any other cause than a spirit of procrastination on your own part, and whether or not the further period of fifteen days which has elapsed without my receiving a reply to my letter of the 6th instant (30th of May) may be considered as an additional proof of your Excellency's disposition to defer the fulfilment of your engagements. Reluctantly compelled, as I am, to view those delays in this light, it is now my duty to request that, in pursuance of the first article of agreement, a sketch of the division and subdivision of your dominions, which may be prepared in the course of a day, be immediately transmitted for my information, or that Diakrishen be directed to attend me with the necessary documents for this purpose, as proposed by your Excellency at our conference. That, further, your Excellency will be pleased, with the least practicable delay, to adopt the necessary measures for the collection of the revenue papers and investigation of the state of the districts, by deputing Ameens, as I proposed, or issuing your instructions to the Aumils; that so, at the appointed time, the triennial settlement may be concluded, and this important measure, as agreed on, may be followed in due time by the establishment of courts of justice and police in every Zillah of your dominions.

With regard to the appointment and deputation of Ameens, or the employment of the present incumbents, and whether the proclamations, the sunnuds for the Ameens, and the perwannahs addressed to collectors and farmers, shall be issued in the terms of the drafts submitted by me, or in those suggested by your Excellency, being ever desirous of consulting your Excellency's pleasure to the utmost practicable extent, although the adoption of my original proposals seems still to be highly expedient, if not essential to the objects in view, I am prepared to acquiesce in your modified proposal and amendment of the drafts, if, on further mature consideration, your Excellency shall deem those alterations indispensable to the removal of your doubts, and to create confidence

fidence in your mind, with a reference to the contemplated arrangements, the immediate or early adoption of which is, in my mind, so important an object.

To conclude, as more than two months have already unprofitably elapsed, and as, after the conclusion of solemn and positive engagements between two States, it can never justly be required by either of the contracting parties to listen to, or obviate, the doubts of the other, with a reference to the fulfilment of those engagements; as, for example, if, with a reference to the fulfilment of the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession in 1801, or to the concluding article of the agreement with Marquess Wellesley, your Excellency should now be pleased to entertain, or describe, any scruples or apprehensions of loss, the British Government could be under no obligation to remove them; and as, in like manner, your Excellency's doubts, with a reference to the plan of reform proposed by the British Government, after the declaration of your assent to that plan in the authenticated document of the 9th of Rubbee-ool-awul (4th of April) are no longer entitled to consideration as an excuse for your rejection of that plan, I must therefore repeat my expectation, that your Excellency will no longer delay to give effect to those salutary arrangements, so eminently calculated to promote the true interests of your Government, and no less beneficial to yourself than indispensable with a reference to your engagements.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 July 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received 16th June 1811, 23d Jemadee-ool-awul 1226.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter, dated the 13th instant (20th of Jemadee-ool-awul.)

You have stated that two months and fifteen days have elapsed, &c. (recapitulate the remark.)

As, in the case of the deputation of Ameens, I continue to apprehend the subversion of my authority, the retirement and disaffection of my subjects, and general disorder in the country, as well as suspension of the collections, total loss of balances, and other injurious effects, from the ignorance of the Ameens, and the want of a measurement of the lands, therefore the fulfilment of what was written in the document under date the 9th of Rubbee ool awul (4th of April) has been suspended till the removal of my apprehensions, which has not yet taken place, and a promise for that purpose is between us: Further, as whatever I had to write on this subject has been written several times, if I answered your letter of the 6th of Jemadee-ool-awul (30th of May,) it would only be to repeat my former writings.

With a reference to your request of a sketch of the division and subdivision of the country, and of the immediate adoption of measures for the collection of revenue papers; as my apprehensions regarding the deputation of Ameens have not yet been removed, the other measures which you propose must also be suspended till this take place.

In answer to your argument of the inadmissibility of my doubts, and their not being entitled to a hearing after a conclusion of the agreement, &c. (recapitulate the remark). The case is this: That, as, after receiving the said articles of agreement, and subsequently the statement of my doubts, you wrote to me, in your own hand, that the dispatch of the Ameens should be delayed till the removal of my apprehensions, and afterwards told me, at a conference, that as many of those apprehensions as could be removed by yourself should be obviated immediately, and that the Governor-General would obviate the remainder; after which, at our conference of Tuesday, you informed me that the statement of my doubts had been forwarded to the Presidency, and that you had yourself prepared an answer to them in writing; it follows that the dispatch of Ameens having been suspended, at your own request, till the removal of my doubts,

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doubts, all the other measures and arrangements which you propose must be suspended till the dispatch of the Ameens.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written 18th June 1811.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The surprise and concern with which I have perused your Excellency's letter of the 16th instant are not to be described.

The result of our conference of the 25th ultimo, at which it was proposed to commit the investigation of the state of the country, and collection of revenue papers, to the officers now in employment, had impressed me with the natural belief, that the greatest number, if not the whole, of your Excellency's apprehensions had been happily removed, and your answer to the heads of that conference, transmitted by your own desire, contains an express acknowledgment to this purpose. My subsequent request of a detail of the particular apprehensions which remained has not yet been honoured with a reply; and your Excellency's extraordinary delay to convey, or rather your apparent resolution to evade, a reply to that letter, combined with the repetition, now before me, of every doubt which you originally described, and some new additional apprehensions, can in my mind be ascribed to no other purpose or view, than that of a departure from your engagements with me, and an evasion of the obligation imposed on you by the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession.

I shall now, for the last time, adhering, however, to my argument of the inadmissible nature of your Excellency's doubts, and disavowing most solemnly and sincerely my having ever promised to remove them (for the correctness of which disavowal I refer to my letters in your possession), submit for your Excellency's consideration the following simple statement, which seems to me to be amply sufficient for the removal of every apprehension that can possibly actuate your mind, with a reference to the measures in contemplation. It is this:—

In the year of our Era 1801, or 1216 Hijree, a portion of your Excellency's territory, yielding a revenue of a crore and thirty-five lacs of rupees, was ceded to the Honourable Company, and immediately after the cession, the measures which are now recommended to your Excellency were adopted in that portion. The country was divided and subdivided into Zillahs and pergunnahs, or mehauls; Ameens were deputed to investigate the condition and assets of those mehauls; a settlement for a term of years was concluded; courts of justice and a police were established; without the occurrence of any one of the evils which your Excellency is pleased to apprehend. No subversion of public authority, no retirement nor disaffection of the people, no general, nor even partial, disorder in the country, no material injurious effects from the ignorance of Ameens, nor from the want of immediate measurement of the lands; and, on the contrary, the landholders and peasantry of that portion of your Excellency's former dominions were raised at once to a condition of comfort and confidence which they had never before experienced, and which has since been gradually increasing. Your Excellency's present dominions form the reserved portion of that territory which was ceded, more compact in its local situation, and more susceptible of efficient Government under the same system than even the portion which was ceded to the Company. And where, then, are the grounds of your Excellency's fears, so hostile to every principle of reason, and to the unerring test of experience in circumstances exactly the same? In short, though as before observed, the tenor of the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession, of the subsequent engagement with Lord Wellesley, and of the ultimate agreement with me, would have fully justified my refusal to listen to one of your Excellency's doubts, (since no obligation to remove them can be quoted from any of those documents,) I have listened with patience and respect, I have laboured with much assiduity, and, if reason and experience be our guides, I must maintain that I have laboured with success, to remove your Excellency's apprehensions; consequently, I am now at liberty to declare, that your delay in giving complete effect to the salutary arrangements proposed to you is as unworthy of your enlightened mind, as the adoption.

adoption of those arrangements is indispensable, with a reference to existing engagements.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The refusal which your Excellency has now, for the first time, expressed of transmitting a plan of the division and sub-division of your country, and of adopting any measures for the investigation of the state of the country, and the collection of revenue papers, is still more extraordinary, if possible, than the remark with which your letter has commenced.

What possible connexion, I will ask, has the measure of deputing Ameens with the division and sub-division of the country which may be arranged from your Excellency's records, without any fear or apprehension, in the course of a single day; and even admitting your groundless fears to remain, those fears had a reference exclusively to the deputation of *new* Ameens, not surely, your Excellency will admit, to the employment of the present incumbents: a modified proposition of your own, and to which I afforded a qualified assent, with a view to your Excellency's satisfaction, requiring shortly after a detail of the objections which might still be proposed by your Excellency, in the case of my consent to this arrangement.

That no real objection remained, and that your Excellency was unable to devise any, is obvious from your delay to detail them, and your ultimate evasion of a reply to my letter, in which that detail was requested.

Your Excellency has been pleased to take advantage, in an equally extraordinary manner, of the note which I had the honour of addressing to you, in my own hand-writing, with the sole and obvious view of preventing the partial deputation of Ameens to a few districts already *amaunee*.

Can your Excellency have ceased to recollect the two modes of introducing the plan of reform which were originally the subject of our discussion? One, its general and universal introduction, at the same time, into every district of your dominions, under the details suggested by me, with the benefit of the proclamation and instructions, of which I furnished you with drafts. The other, a partial and experimental introduction of it into one district at a time, as explained by your Excellency in writing, for the first time, in your statement of doubts under date the 26th of Rubbee-ool-awul (21st of April), in the following words: "I suggest the introduction of the new system first into one Elaka, which may be considered in the greatest disorder; and if this be settled according to my wish, let it then be introduced into another."

Of those two modes of introducing the system of reform, the first was my original and uniform choice. To the second I always objected in strong and decided terms, for various reasons, which it is now unnecessary to mention; and, consequently, on my hearing a report of your Excellency's intention to depute one or two Ameens to the districts of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, already *amaunee*, without even giving them the proclamation or instructions suggested by me, I observed the necessary precaution of writing to dissuade you from this measure; but that the general deputation of Ameens to all the districts of your dominions at one time, in the manner, and with the benefit of the documents, which I had proposed for your adoption, should have been suspended by my desire, on any ground, or under any circumstances whatever, is, indeed, a most extraordinary assertion. It is, in other words, that I should have prevented the adoption of a measure, which was uniformly, and is now, the first object of my anxiety and desire, as being eminently advantageous to your Excellency, and unattended by any solid ground of apprehension, whatever your Excellency may think of it.

That I mentioned to your Excellency at our conference my intention of removing your doubts, as far as possible, and of referring them for the consideration of the Government, is totally out of my recollection, though, as your Excellency has stated the fact, I have too much respect for you to dispute it: and, indeed, to this extent it is certain, that every one of your Excellency's letters and writings has been regularly transmitted to the Presidency. But as,

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5 July 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

at our conference of the 1st of Jemadee-oool-awul (25th May), an abstract of which is in the Presence, a modified proposal had been made, superseding the deputation of Ameens, and obviating, as I imagined, every doubt in your Excellency's mind, nay, acknowledged to have obviated most of them, and your acknowledgment to that effect being on record, the necessity for a reference to Government, or of awaiting the result of any reference hitherto made, is in my mind totally removed; and the division and subdivision of the country, the investigation of the state of the mehauls, and the collection of revenue papers, with all the subsequent measures to which your Excellency has solemnly pledged yourself, cannot, on any just principle, be suspended, or dependent on the deputation of new Ameens, to which your original apprehensions had alone and exclusively a reference.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

The Board observe, that the tenor of the foregoing despatches from the Resident at Lucknow appears amply to confirm the opinion stated in the instructions issued to the Resident, under date the 21st ultimo, and to demonstrate that the Vizier's acquiescence in the plan of reform, as proposed to him by the Resident, would not, in the actual disposition of his Excellency's mind, secure the effect of it; and that it therefore seems advisable to direct the Resident to cease all further urgency, on the ground of the impracticability of adopting the requisite preliminary arrangements before the expiration of the fusly year. Previously, however, to the preparation of these instructions, his Excellency the Vice-President in Council deems it proper to await the receipt of the Resident's report of his further proceedings, that may be expected to comprehend the close of his negotiation.

Ordered accordingly, That the preceding despatches from the Resident at Lucknow do lie for consideration.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed copies of letters which I have recently received from Major Drummond, commanding a detachment in Akberpore, and Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the troops at Sooltanpore, together with a copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Colonel Fraser.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th June 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Major Drummond.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th instant.

Agreeably to the instructions therein contained, I have directed the artillery and cavalry to march to-morrow morning for their respective lines, and intend to follow them the day after.

Deeming the surrender of Chandapore advisable during the time the detachment remained in the field and in force, I summoned, and, am happy to say, have added it to the lists of the forts surrendered.

Allow me to express a hope, that the services of the detachment, during the limited period it has been employed, have been such as to merit the approbation of his Excellency the Vizier and yourself. On my part, I can with safety aver, that I have every reason to be pleased with all the officers composing the detachment.

The

The different fortresses and ghurries have been delivered over to his Excellency's Aumil; and as nothing remains to be achieved, agreeably with your orders I shall return with the troops to their cantonments.

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I have, &c.

Camp, near Allyghur,
11th June 1811.

(Signed) F. DRUMMOND,
Major, commanding the
Detachment.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Fraser.

1. I have the honour to acquaint you, that the division of my battalion recently and independently employed in the districts of Akberpore and Tanda, under the command of Major Drummond, joined me yesterday at this post, with the exception of one officer (Lieutenant Hawthorne) and ninety men, directed to remain there for the purpose of demolishing the Fort of Chandapore, and some others of less importance already in his possession.

2. This officer is instructed to inform me if he should find it requisite to have his detachment reinforced, in which case I shall adopt the necessary measures for accomplishing it.

3. From the report made to me by Major Drummond, and the means stated to be furnished Lieutenant Hawthorne for executing the duties in which he is at present employed, it is probable that the destruction of Chandapore, &c. will take near one month; after which period, I make no hesitation in stating to you as my public and professional opinion, that the services, or even the exertions of British troops in these districts can be of little or no avail, as the period of the year and low situation of the country are such as must prove insurmountable obstacles to military operations, and be the means of materially injuring the men's arms, ammunition, and discipline.

I have, &c.

Sooltanpore,
16th June 1811.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding at Sooltanpore.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 16th instant, reporting Major Drummond's return with the detachment under his command to the head-quarters of his battalion.

2. The speedy and successful execution of the service on which Major Drummond was employed, and the surrender and demolition of the fortresses in the districts of Akberpore and Tanda, are, in my opinion, highly creditable to Major Drummond's professional judgment and zeal, as well as to the conduct of the officers and men of his detachment; and I request the favour of your conveying these my sentiments to Major Drummond, in answer to that officer's despatch under date the 11th instant.

3. I entirely approve the instructions which you have issued to Lieutenant Hawthorne, and you will consider yourself as authorized to recall that officer with his detachment to the head-quarters of his corps, whenever you have reason to believe that his continuance in Akberpore is unnecessary.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th June 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 July 1811.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th ultimo, transmitting copies of letters which you had received from Major Drummond and Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the troops at Sooltanpore, reporting the return to cantonments of the detachment employed under the command of the former, after the accomplishment of the objects for which it had been formed, together with copy of your reply to the latter communication, and to signify to you the entire concurrence of his Excellency the Vice-President in Council in the opinion which you have expressed, regarding the zeal and judgment with which that service has been performed.

You will accordingly be pleased to make known to Major Drummond the sense which his Excellency the Vice-President in Council entertains of the merits of his conduct, in the speedy and successful execution of the duties thus committed to his charge.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
5th July 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS.

The 12th July 1811.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
12 July 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. The primary objects of my visit to his Excellency the Vizier on the morning of the 22d instant, which was announced in my despatch of the 20th, were the adjustment of some disputed points between his Excellency and the two Begums, the restitution of a considerable portion of the revenue of Tadjumool Hoosein Khan's jagier collected by his Excellency's officers during the period of the resumption of the jagier, the payment of a portion of Casim Alee Khan's stipend unjustly withheld, and the settlement of a few subordinate questions, in all which the unhappy disposition of the Vizier, and his vindictive spirit of resentment against the dependants of the British Government, have induced him to impose upon me the disagreeable but indispensable duty of remonstrating against his injustice and oppression, and, in some cases, his real inhumanity towards the most respectable of the connections of his family.

2. After a partial degree of success in the discussion of those subordinate points, and a conversation of some length regarding the provisions of a supplemental treaty for the decision of questions of disputed boundary between the two States, to which his Excellency has recently started some frivolous objections, I put on the appearance of taking leave, without making any reference to the important question of reform, in the hope of his Excellency's being induced, by a recollection of the contents of my letters, which were still unanswered in his hands, to commence the discussion himself and to make some proposition for its adjustment.

3. Disappointed in this hope, I remarked to his Excellency that though the primary objects of my visit were an inquiry regarding his health, and an adjustment of the subordinate questions which we had just ceased to converse on, I could not, consistently with the duties of friendship for his Excellency, neglect any opportunity that occurred of endeavouring to convince him of the wisdom, justice, and necessity of the several measures of reform recommended to him by our Government, for his own eminent advantage, and of the striking impropriety of his delay to carry those measures into effect, after his faith had been pledged for their adoption.

4. I lamented, in the most impressive terms which I could use, that his Excellency should have, even for a time, allowed himself to be so misled by the pernicious and interested counsels of a few designing individuals, as to evince a serious intention of departing from his positive engagements, and to place among the records of the British Government and his own, a series of written inconsistencies and evasions, so unworthy of his high character for great talents and wisdom, and so injurious to his reputation for good faith, and for sincerity in his professions of friendship to the Honourable Company's Government.

5. Considering the discussion with his Excellency on my own part, in as far as just argument, sound reasoning, and conciliatory language extended, to be now entirely at an end, I discharged an ultimate duty of friendship to his Excellency, in submitting for his serious consideration that the present fiscal year was drawing very near to its close, that his present arrangements for the realization of his revenue would, of necessity, cease with this year, and that some new arrangement must be adopted, with a view to the future security of the revenue; that a renewal of any of the leases which were now about to expire, or the consignment of any portion of his dominions to the future management of farmers, in direct opposition to the advice of the British Government, and to the express terms of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, could not be, I trusted, in his contemplation; that the future assistance or support of a single soldier of the British army to the present baneful system of assessment and collection, or to any of its instruments in the persons of his Excellency's Aunils, was totally out of the question; and that, under all those circumstances, it behoved his Excellency to consider under what so beneficial an arrangement as the plan suggested

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

suggested by our Government the resources of his country could be realized, and the internal tranquillity of his dominions secured against the probable insurrection of the landholders, the effect of their oppression and despair.

6. The Vizier seemed sensibly affected by the influence of the foregoing remarks, which he desired me to leave with him in writing, and promised, in a conciliatory manner, to make a personal communication on the subject of them in the course of a few days. I declined committing to his Excellency the rough abstract of the remarks which I held in my hands at the time, and excused myself from copying it in the palace, on the ground of my having already detained him too long; but I added, that the remarks were of too serious a nature to be quickly forgotten by his Excellency, and that, if necessary, I should submit them to him in writing on some future occasion.

7. On the morning of the 24th instant, his Excellency retired to Beebeepore, at the distance of five miles from the city, without apprizing me of his intention, or referring in any respect to his promise of a verbal communication, which, on the contrary, he has manifestly evaded by this sudden retreat to Beebeepore: and I had, in consequence, prepared a letter for his Excellency, recalling to his recollection the substance of my two former letters, dated the 30th ultimo and 18th instant, and recapitulating, for his serious consideration, the remarks which were submitted to him at our conference; when, on the evening of the 26th instant, to my unspeakable surprise and concern, I received the extraordinary letter, a translation of which is enclosed.

8. The contents of this letter from his Excellency having no tendency to supersede, or to suggest alteration in the substance of my letter already prepared, I transmitted it on the following morning with a second short letter, acknowledging the receipt of his Excellency's, and promising an answer to such parts of it as seemed worthy of reply, when a prospect might hereafter present itself of my communications on this subject being received with that attention which they deserved. Copies of both the letters alluded to are transmitted by this despatch.

9. On a retrospect of the whole of the proceedings in this arduous and important negotiation, His Excellency the Vice-President in Council will, I doubt not, do me the justice to believe, that every possible exertion of my judgment and zeal has been applied, in the first instance, to prevail on his Excellency the Vizier to acquiesce in the salutary arrangements proposed to him by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council; that, further, no argument which the instructions of the Government suggested, or the nature of the case and subsequent occurrences required, has been omitted on my part, with the view and for the purpose of inducing his Excellency to banish his imaginary fears, and to adhere to his original engagements; and that his Excellency's ultimate denial of those engagements, in direct opposition to the terms of a written document authenticated by a letter under his seal, when every argument, and even plausible pretext for further delay had been repelled, is a circumstance which I could never have foreseen, and which no exertion of my judgment could, at any time, have enabled me to guard against.

10. I am still encouraged to hope for some favourable change in the mind of his Excellency the Vizier as the effect of my last letter; and I shall not fail to take advantage of such a change, if produced, for the purpose of renewing the discussion, and of prosecuting it to a satisfactory conclusion.

11. A firm and decided refusal of the future assistance of our troops to support the proceedings of the Aumils, or coerce the defaulting Zemindars, must of necessity have the desired effect in a very limited time; and a declaration of this resolution, on the part of the Government, in a direct address from the Honourable the Vice-President to his Excellency the Vizier, would, I humbly conceive, be of use in accelerating the accomplishment of the object.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th June 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 26th June 1811.)

Bengal Political
Consultations.
12 July 1811.

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter, dated the 25th of Jemadec-ool-awul (18th instant), in reply to my shookha of the 23d.

You have stated that "the result of our conference on the 1st of this month," &c. (recapitulate the remark.)

In my answer to your abstract of the heads of that conference, it was written that, "in the case of committing the duties of Ameens to the present amaanee Aumils, most of my doubts would certainly be removed, but that some " would still be remaining ;" and as nothing was afterwards settled about issuing orders to those Aumils, if any thing had been afterwards settled, I should have declared my remaining doubts.

You remark, that when you asked for a detail of those doubts, I evaded an answer to your letter, and in my last letter, above noticed, conveyed a repetition of the whole of my original doubts, with some additions. I cannot conceive that any thing additional was written : if it be so, let me know.

I never made any positive promises : if I had, why should I have subsequently sent a statement of my doubts ?

I never intended, nor do I now intend, to depart from my promises, nor to evade the stipulations of treaties ; and my intentions, with a reference to those affairs, having been fully detailed in former writings, an answer to your letter of the 6th of Jemadec-ool-awul (30th May), as a repetition of the contents of former letters, was unnecessary, and was therefore withheld.

You proceed to state, that although you had never made a promise for the removal of my imaginary apprehensions, &c.

In your letter written by your own hand, and received on the 27th of Rubbee-ool-sance (28th May), a promise to the above effect is contained ; and with regard to your remark, that a simple fact is now offered for the removal of all my apprehensions, namely, that "a portion of my original territory, yielding a revenue," &c. I know nothing at all of the establishment of the system in the Ceded Provinces, and the orders which have been determined on for my country were never carried into execution in those provinces, particularly that for an actual measurement of the lands, as you have yourself stated that actual measurement was not resorted to there but in cases of necessity ; and when I informed you that the Ameens had represented the impossibility of performing all the duties prescribed, you admitted their statement to be just. In answer to your remark, that although after the conclusion of "the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession," and "of the subsequent engagement with Marquess Wellesley," &c. The case is this : that in the said sixth article of the treaty and engagement with Lord Wellesley, there is no promise, nor acknowledgment, for the establishment of this system, the deputation of Ameens and the establishment of courts of justice and police : and as for the articles of agreement contained in the document dated 9th Rubbee-ool-awul (4th April), that document may be considered *like any other correspondence between us which is still subject to discussion*, because what is written there is still dependent on discussion, and on the satisfaction of my mind.

With regard to your remark, that "you have laboured with success by proofs " from reason and experience to satisfy my doubts ;" my doubts have not at all, nor in any respect been removed by those proofs : and, in reply to your observation that the division and subdivision of my dominions, and the collection of revenue-papers, cannot, on any principle, be dependent on the deputation of Ameens, &c., the division and subdivision recommended by you, the collection of revenue-papers, such as a statement of the *jumma kamil*, and a mowazana, and a triennial settlement of the revenue, are dependent on the actual measurement, and on the introduction of the new system, and these measures are impracticable through the agency either of amaanee Aumils, or of new Ameens, until my apprehensions be removed.

You have further requested me to recollect, that "the introduction of the " new system was of two kinds," &c. In the event of the deputation of Ameens

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Letter
from the Vizier.

Ameens and introduction of the proposed system, all the doubts and apprehensions which were formerly written will remain.

You have stated, that "on receiving a report of my intention to depute Ameens," &c. In your letter, in your own hand-writing, formerly referred to, it is stated that the deputation of Ameens, particularly to districts already amaunee, of which the present Aumils are the same as Ameens, before a conference with you and the removal of my doubts, is not advisable, in your opinion.

You have further stated, that although the conversation alluded to be not in your recollection, yet as I have asserted you will not deny it, and that certainly translations of all our letters have been long ago transmitted to the Presidency, &c. Praise be to God, that the transmission of translations of all the letters is still acknowledged by yourself, and consequently that you did say so at our personal conference. How could I have known this circumstance from any person but yourself? And on this account it seems advisable and proper always, for the future, that the whole of our discussion should not be confined to speech merely, but should also be committed to writing, that doubts may not afterwards occur.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 27th June 1811.)

Your Excellency's sudden retirement to Beebeepore without informing me of your intention, and your residence there for a period of several days without my being honoured with any communication from you, in answer to my letters of the 6th of Jemadee-ool-awul (30th May) and 25th of that month (18th instant), notwithstanding your declaration, at our interview of the 22d instant, that you had something to say to me on the important subject under discussion, and the favourable impression which the manner of that declaration had made on my mind, are circumstances which render it my duty to recall to your Excellency's recollection the substance of the letters abovementioned, and more particularly the tenor of the remarks which I submitted for your serious consideration at our interview on the morning of the 22d.

My letters being still in your Excellency's possession it is unnecessary to recapitulate the substance of them. If attentively and dispassionately perused, they cannot fail to impress on your mind the necessity of the fulfilment of your engagements, and a due sense of the groundless and imaginary, as well as totally inadmissible nature of your Excellency's doubts and apprehensions, with a reference to the measures of reform.

But the remarks which I submitted to your Excellency in person, on the morning of the 22d instant, and which appeared to have made a salutary impression at the time, may perhaps have escaped your recollection; and their importance to your immediate interests renders it a duty of friendship on my part to recall, and, if possible, to preserve this impression on your mind, by submitting the remarks to you in writing.

I commenced with entreating your Excellency to reflect on the real object of the reform in the system of your administration so earnestly recommended by me, and which your Excellency had promised to adopt.

Were the interests of the British Government alone, or even in an eminent degree, to be consulted by the salutary arrangements in contemplation, it was admitted, in this case, that your Excellency, while induced by your principles of good faith, or rather impelled by the positive obligation of treaties, to give your consent to the measures of reform, might be supposed to view with suspicion the commencement and progress of those measures. But as the sole and exclusive object was a manifest advantage to yourself in the improvement of the resources of your country, the more easy realization of those resources, the satisfaction of your Excellency's mind, the comfort and happiness of your subjects, and their attachment to your person and government, it was difficult to imagine any ground for your original reluctance in consenting to the principal measures of reform, and

and still more so, to account for your delay in carrying those measures into effect, after your faith had been solemnly pledged for their immediate or early execution.

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Consultations,
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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I next proceeded to express my sincere and genuine regret, that your Excellency should have even for a time allowed yourself to be so misled by the pernicious and interested counsels of a few designing individuals, as to evince a serious intention of departing from your engagements with me, and evading the obligation of treaties, and to place upon the records of our Government a series of inconsistencies and evasions, so truly unworthy of your high character for great talents and wisdom, and so manifestly injurious to your reputation for good faith and sincerity in your professions of friendship for the Honourable Company's Government.

Considering every argument in favour of the plan of reform, and against your Excellency's imaginary apprehensions to be now totally exhausted, I finally entreated you to reflect, that the present revenue year was drawing near to its close, that your present arrangements for the collection of the revenue of your dominions would of necessity cease with this year, and that the future realization of any part of your revenue, save in the districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, must depend on the measures which you might now be pleased to adopt, and in the consideration and adoption of which the greatest circumspection was necessary. That a renewal of any of the leases which were now about to expire, or a continuance of the system of assessment and collection which had hitherto prevailed in your dominions, in direct opposition to the advice of the British Government and to the express terms of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, could not, of course, be in your contemplation. That the future support, or assistance of a single soldier of the British army, to the present baneful system, or to any of its instruments, in the persons of your Excellency's Aumils, was entirely out of the question; and that, under these circumstances, it behoved your Excellency to consider, under what so beneficial arrangement as the plan suggested by our Government the resources of your country could be realized, and whether or not the concluding provision of the third article of the treaty of 1801, admitted of your Excellency's taking measures for the future coercion of your landholders, and the suppression of insurrections to be produced by the despair of an oppressed population, without requiring the aid or support of the Honourable Company's troops.

To the natural influence of those remarks on a mind so well endowed as your Excellency's I commit the result of this discussion, in the anxious hope that your final determination will be formed on principles that shall satisfy yourself, and lead to your future advantage.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 27th June 1811.)

Before the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, I had been induced by several important considerations, and particularly by motives of sincere friendship for your Excellency, to prepare a letter to your address on this subject, which I was just about to despatch when your Excellency's messenger arrived. The contents of your Excellency's letter do not suggest any alteration in mine, and accordingly I now transmit it.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

At a future time, if I see any prospect of renewing the correspondence to advantage, I shall submit answers to some of the remarks which your Excellency has made on this occasion; but I shall not, certainly, think it my duty to reply to your Excellency's denial of your having ever made any positive promises, nor to your assertion of a promise for the removal of your doubts being contained in my short letter of the 27th of Rubee-oos-Sanec (21st May), nor to one or two other extraordinary remarks which are contained in your Excellency's letter, because the answer to those, consistently with my respect for
your

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your Excellency, could be nothing more than a reference to original and authenticated documents in your own records, and in mine.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 12th, 20th and 28th ultimo, reporting the progress of your negotiation with his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, on the subject of the proposed reform of his administration.

2. His Excellency the Vice-President in Council deduces, with great regret, from the tenor of these reports, and especially from the last, not only the confirmation of the opinions stated in my despatch of the 21st ultimo, but a conviction of the impracticability of obtaining the Vizier's concurrence in the system of reform so earnestly recommended to his adoption, excepting only by measures of absolute compulsion, by which are meant a renewed and direct urgency on the part of this Government, founded on the obligations of treaty, and accompanied by the declaration suggested in the last paragraph of your letter of the 28th ultimo.

3. From the adoption of measures of this description his Excellency in Council is withheld, not only by the political considerations which are adverted to in the sequel of this despatch, but by the conviction that the Vizier's involuntary acquiescence in the system of reform, even to the full extent proposed by you, would fail to secure its successful operation ; for, perverted and erroneous as are the views and sentiments of his Excellency, he would have an interest in rendering that system abortive ; and it is superfluous to add, that his means of accomplishing that end are unlimited and beyond control. This consideration was present to the mind of the Governor-General in Council when he issued his instructions of the 28th December, and it consequently was not in the contemplation of Government to carry the negotiation to the extreme suggested in your despatch of the 28th ultimo. The object of the reference in those instructions to the obligations imposed upon the Vizier by treaty, and to the reluctance with which the British Government employed its troops for the suppression of disorders occasioned by the evils and abuses of his Excellency's administration, or to state the case more strongly, in supporting the cause of injustice and oppression, was to demonstrate the right of that Government to demand from the Vizier the reform of his administration, and to supply the arguments which might be supposed to have the greatest efficacy in convincing the Vizier of the necessity of a reform, and in persuading him to adopt it. Your declarations to the Vizier, therefore, intimating a positive resolution on the part of Government to refuse hereafter the aid of its troops in the suppression of disorders in his Excellency's country, although occasioned by the oppressions or misconduct of his officers, has exceeded the intentions of the Governor-General in Council.

4. The introduction of compulsory measures, as they are above explained, would entirely change the ground of negotiation. It would bring into immediate question the continuance, or dissolution, of the relations between the two States as established by treaty ; for if a demand be made by one of two contracting parties on the other, on the basis of a specific article of treaty, accompanied by a declared resolution not to fulfil a positive and fundamental stipulation of the same treaty, in the event of a rejection, or evasion, of such demand, and that resolution be carried into effect, the system of connection established by the mutual engagements of the parties ceases to exist.

5. It is unnecessary to trace the consequences of such a state of things between the British Government and that of the Vizier. It is sufficient to observe, that the menace of refusing the aid of our troops for the suppression of disorders within his Excellency's dominions must in the end be nugatory,
since

since this Government would be compelled, by considerations connected with its own most important interests, to interpose its military power for the restoration of tranquillity.

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

6. But situated as the dominions of the Company and the Vizier relatively are, the state of affairs implied in a dissolution of the treaty could not be suffered to remain even for a day. The compact must be renewed either in the same or another form, and the course of transactions would naturally lead to the establishment of a degree of control over the Vizier's reserved dominions, incompatible with the obligations which formed the price of his Excellency's extended cessions in the year 1801.

7. The belief that the Vizier would be induced, by the menace alone, to accede to our views, furnishes no argument in reply to the preceding observations, since it is inconsistent with unalterable principles to menace a measure, of which considerations either of expediency or of justice would preclude the adoption.

8. But the suggested course of proceeding is objectionable on other grounds; on the doubt of its being supported by the laws and principles which regulate the interpretation of treaties.

9. Questions which relate to the dissolution of solemn engagements between States must ever be considered of a most delicate nature. The violation, on one side, that can justify a refusal, on the other, to fulfil a positive and fundamental stipulation of the compact, which would, in fact, be declaring a cessation of the pre-established relations between the contracting States, must be essential and indisputable.

10. In the present case, it is to be considered whether, although the Vizier has engaged "to establish in his reserved dominions such a system of administration (to be carried into effect by his own officers) as shall be conducive to the prosperity of his subjects, and be calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants," and also "always to advise with, and act in conformity to the counsel of the British Government," his declining or evading, for reasons connected in his Excellency's own opinion with the interests of his Government, the adoption of the specific plan of reform recommended by this Government, is such a violation of his engagements as to warrant our refusal to fulfil the stipulated obligation of protecting his dominions against the evils of internal rebellion and disorder, and to disqualify him from maintaining the relations established by the treaty. The train of argument by which the affirmative of this question is to be maintained is sufficiently obvious, but not altogether conclusive; for, in the first place, stipulations such as are contained in the treaty cannot possibly be rendered so specific and precise as not to admit of some latitude of construction, or to preclude an eventual opposition between their spirit and their letter: for instance, the combination of the two stipulations above cited could not justly be interpreted to impose on the Vizier an obligation absolutely and implicitly to accede to whatever plan of reform the British Government might advise, however adverse to his interests or his prejudices; nor the second of those clauses to require him, in every concern of his Government, to follow indiscriminately every counsel, however injurious or repugnant to his feelings, that either wisdom or error might suggest on the part of the British Government, under the penalty of forfeiting his claim to the fulfilment of our part of the stipulations of the treaty. A construction so literal would obviously be incompatible with the existence of that authority, which by the same instrument we have solemnly guaranteed. In the second place, the stipulation on our part to protect his dominions from internal rebellion and disorder is not placed, even constructively, in such a state of relation to that by which he engaged to establish an improved system of administration within his dominions, as that the abrogation of the former should be the penal consequence of his neglecting or evading the latter. There does not, indeed, in this case appear to be either a just proportion, or a natural relation, between the offence and the penalty.

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Consultations,
12 July 1811.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

11. In the imperfection of all human arrangements, in none, perhaps, more conspicuous than in treaties of alliance between States and Kingdoms, engagements of that description must be referable to general principles, which constitute the essence and the basis of them; and those acts or neglects on the part of the Vizier, which would warrant a dissolution of the existing treaty, must go beyond a departure from an insulated stipulation, which however important in itself, is not, under a just and liberal construction of it, an essential and fundamental principle of the alliance. That alliance, indeed, has subsisted, and as far as regards its general political objects, has subsisted successfully, during a period of ten years, the stipulation in question remaining unperformed.

12. If, indeed, the Vizier, in a spirit of hostility to the alliance, should systematically resist the counsels of the British Government, in concerns affecting in an essential degree our interests and our security, he would place himself in the condition of a public enemy, and absolve us from the engagements which we have contracted. But that system of evasion and subterfuge, qualified by an ostensible regard to the counsels of the British Government, to which his Excellency has had recourse, cannot be so interpreted. In fact, the subject of discussion between the British Government and the Vizier is not the obligatory nature of the stipulations in question, nor his refusal to fulfil them, but the validity of the pleas and arguments by which he contends that the matter of our counsel would operate to the injury of his interests: arguments which we know to be futile, and to be urged with a view to the continuance of a system of government favourable to the indulgence of his characteristic rapacity, but which, with reference to his own views, he considers to be legitimate and solid; and it might be difficult to resist the force of the remark, that the mere error of his judgment with regard to the real interests of his person and government, and not affecting the fundamental principles of the alliance, could not justly be made the ground of a dissolution of the treaty, unless the clause which requires him to conform to the counsels of the other contracting party, were deemed to be so absolute as not to admit of argument or objection on his part.

13. But there is yet another point of view in which the question may be considered, and which is applicable to the exception above stated. If the provisions of the treaty are to be abrogated, on any other ground than that of the Vizier having placed himself in the condition of a public enemy, on what principle could the British Government resist a claim, on the part of the Vizier, to be restored to the same situation which he held with regard to territory, power, and authority, before the conclusion of the treaty of 1801? It could not, perhaps, be maintained, that by evading the fulfilment of the stipulation which required him to establish within his dominions a system of Administration calculated, in our judgment, though not in his own, to improve the resources of his country, and the happiness of his subjects, he forfeited the advantages of the treaty without a title to retain the valuable cessions with which he purchased those advantages. If from causes referable to the circumstances of the Vizier's country and to the peculiarities of his character, but independent of any acts or projects of his Excellency hostile to the British power, stipulations relating to the internal administration of his dominions are found to be impracticable, the alternative to us must, probably be considered to be either an acquiescence in this unavoidable imperfection of the original arrangement, or a dissolution of the compact involving the restoration of the ancient order of things.

14. These observations of his Excellency in Council are not intended, in any degree, as a defence of the Vizier's conduct, which, as you justly state, has been marked by prevarication, evasion, and insincerity, throughout the whole of the late arduous negotiation; but they are stated, first, because his Excellency in Council deems it of importance that you should be apprized of his sentiments on a question affecting the stability of the engagements subsisting between the British Government and the Vizier, and the obligations of public faith; and, secondly, as being introductory to the resolution which his Excellency in Council finds himself compelled to adopt, under the certain disappointment

pointment of all your zealous and able efforts to accomplish the object of the Governor-General in Council's instructions of the 28th December, and under the conviction, already stated, that even the Vizier's acquiescence in every part of the proposed plan of reform, in the actual temper and disposition of his mind, would fail to secure any of the benefits which his cordial adoption of it would unquestionably produce.

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Consultations,
12 July 1811.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

15. You will anticipate that resolution to be the relinquishment, for the present at least, of any further efforts. The plea to be assumed for desisting from further urgency is the protraction of the negotiation, and the consequent delay in the adoption of the preliminary measures and arrangements, occasioned solely by his Excellency's insincere and disingenuous conduct, until the near approach of the termination of the current fussy year has rendered the prosecution of the plan of reform at the present season impracticable.

16. You will not think it necessary, at the same time, to disguise from the Vizier the sentiments of disappointment with which his Excellency the Vice-President in Council has contemplated the conduct of the Vizier during the whole of the negotiation, and now contemplates the effect of it, in the suspension of the salutary and unobjectionable system of reform recommended to his adoption.

17. You will be pleased to add, that his Excellency the Vice-President refrains from addressing the Vizier on this subject, until the receipt of the letter which it is understood his Excellency is preparing in reply to the Governor-General's address of the 28th December.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
6th July 1811.

(Signed)

N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 19th July 1811.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 July 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. Since the despatch of my letter to your address, under date the 28th ultimo, I have had no communications with his Excellency the Vizier, of importance sufficient to require an official report to the Government.

2. His Excellency's general health has been stated by himself to be indifferent, and he has apparently suffered some degree of uneasiness, and has been precluded from taking his usual exercise on horseback by a rheumatic affection of his limbs; but his physician has reported his complaint to be of no material consequence, and to be probably of short duration.

3. I considered it to be my duty to offer a visit of friendly inquiry regarding his Excellency's health during his residence at Beebeepore, and I proceeded accordingly to breakfast with him on the morning of the 4th instant; when his Excellency received me in his usual manner, complained of occasional pain in one of his knees, and announced his intention of returning to town in a few days; at which I expressed my satisfaction, without allowing his Excellency to suppose that I attached any particular importance to his temporary retirement from, or speedy return to, his capital.

4. No conversation of an important nature took place; and I took my leave after breakfast, without referring in any respect to the subject of our recent correspondence. His Excellency returned to his palace on the morning of the 6th instant, and several letters and messages have since passed between us on the ordinary business of his government, in the course of which he has manifested a greater readiness than before to comply with my requests and suggestions.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

5. I have further understood from respectable authority, that a circular order, has been issued to all the farmers of revenue, with the exception of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, to announce to them that no renewal of their leases will be granted, and that the revenues are in future to be collected under the *amaunee* system exclusively. If his Excellency the Vizier shall hereafter be pleased to intimate this resolution and the measures connected with it to me, I shall be prepared to offer such suggestions on the subject as may appear to be most beneficial, with a view to the realization of his revenue, without involving in any degree the responsibility of the British Government for the success of his Excellency's measures of apparent or partial reform.

6. I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, expressive of the sentiments of the Government on the general subject of my proceedings, as detailed in my despatch of the 28th of May, and conveying a salutary caution, with a reference to my future proceedings, which has never been absent from my thoughts, and shall hereafter be most strictly observed.

7. In the case of his Excellency the Vizier being at length happily induced to fulfil his engagements with me, and to execute the measures of reform under the constant influence of my suggestions, proceeding on his own correct and unreserved communication of the circumstances to which my advice may be intended to apply, the information which I already possess regarding the character and dispositions of the principal landholders, and the state of the country and population at large, enables me with confidence to predict the successful progress of those measures in every district of his dominions, without any material defalcation of his revenue, during even the first three years of reform, and with a certain prospect of increase at the beginning of the second settlement of the revenue.

8. On the other hand, if his Excellency be seriously disposed, and being so disposed shall be permitted, to depart from any one of his engagements, and to commence hereafter, as he has already on one or two occasions commenced, what he is pleased to term a partial and experimental reform of the system of assessment and collection of his revenue; if he continue, as heretofore, to withhold every degree of useful and important information from the British Resident at his Court, to ask the advice of the Resident occasionally on a few unimportant points, and to evince a total disregard for that advice in every instance where it might oppose his own baneful propensities, or the oppressive views of his Government, it is in this case sufficiently apparent, that the failure, whether partial or total, of the projected measures of reform, and the future decrease of a revenue which is actually now decreasing with extraordinary rapidity every year, cannot, on any principle, be referred to the counsels of the British Government or of its representative, nor can they constitute a valid charge against the efficiency of a general system of reform, which, to be executed in the terms of the treaty and existing engagements between the two States, must be executed with the uniform concurrence and advice of the Honourable Company's officers, and the total failure of which, if it were possible, might in this latter case alone, be made a ground of charge, or of reproach, against the wisdom and justice of our Government.

9. It shall be my particular study and care to keep a watchful eye over the progressive execution of the minutest details of every important measure which may originate with my suggestions to the Vizier; and I shall not fail to remonstrate, or, if necessary, to protest against any of his Excellency's measures, or instances of departure from my suggestions, the influence of which might found a charge or reproach, of the nature above described, in the remotest possible degree.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th July 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 July 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I deem it to be my duty to transmit to you, for the notice of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed copy and translation of a letter which I received from his Excellency the Vizier in the afternoon of the 9th instant, complaining of severe indisposition, and desiring my attendance in the palace with some medical gentlemen, for the purpose of ascertaining the state of his Excellency's health.

2. Having visited his Excellency at Beebeepore on the morning of the 4th instant, when he looked remarkably well, and having had daily or more frequent communications of a very satisfactory nature since that date, in answer to my inquiries from his Excellency and his physician Mr. Law, the tenor of the accompanying letter could not fail to surprise, while it alarmed me in a very great degree, and I did not lose a moment in repairing to his Excellency's palace, accompanied by the surgeon of the Residency, and directing at the same time the attendance of his Excellency's surgeon, for the purpose of satisfying myself, by the joint opinions of those gentlemen, regarding the true state of his Excellency's health.

3. The Vizier was seated in his bed when I arrived, seemed highly gratified by my ready attendance, on his friendly summons, and looked still remarkably well ; but complained of great pain in his limbs, and particularly of restlessness during the night, and desired that I should state all the symptoms of his disorder to the medical gentlemen in attendance, and particularly to Mr. Wilson, observing that he had followed implicitly the prescriptions of Mr. Law for a month, without deriving any essential benefit from them.

4. Mr. Wilson, in concurrence with Mr. Law, pronounced his Excellency's disorder to be merely a rheumatic affection, arising probably from exposure to cold, and creating, by long duration, a degree of debility and a languid state of the circulation of blood in the limbs, which would certainly yield to an alterative course of medicine in a short time, and was not attended by any symptom of danger whatever.

5. I remained in attendance on his Excellency for upwards of an hour, administering every degree of consolation which the nature of his complaint, the apparent condition of his mind, and the kindest offices and expressions of friendship could afford to him ; and I announced, when taking leave of his Excellency, my resolution to visit him every day till I could witness his entire recovery, and report it for the perfect satisfaction of his Excellency the Vice-President and the other members of the Government.

6. I did accordingly pay another visit to his Excellency the Vizier yesterday, and I have waited on him again to-day, observing with genuine pleasure, and receiving from his Excellency a report of the improving state of his health, and diminution of the restlessness and other painful symptoms of his disorder.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
11th July 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 9th July 1811.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I am unwell and suffer great pain. It is impossible that you should know what I suffer ; because if you did know, I am certain that you would have come to see me, and to ascertain the real state of my health.

Reposing confidence, as I do, in your friendship, and having no other real and sympathizing friend than yourself, whose kindness could give consolation and confidence to my mind, I therefore write to desire that you will come and see me, bringing two or three physicians with you to the Presence, to ascertain the true state of my disease, and take the proper measures for my recovery,
because

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because I suffer the greatest possible pain, and in the whole world have not one such a friend as yourself.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That, in reply to the two preceding despatches, the following letter be addressed to the Resident at Lucknow.

To Captain J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your two despatches, under dates the 8th and 11th instant ; the former stating some observations founded principally on the tenor of my letter of the 21st ultimo ; the latter relating the circumstances of his Excellency the Vizier's indisposition, and enclosing a copy and translation of his Excellency's letter to you on that subject, requesting your attendance in terms of extraordinary kindness and conciliation.

2. His Excellency the Vice-President in Council's concern at the severity of the Vizier's indisposition is greatly relieved by the favourable report of the physicians, and by the information of the amendment of his health. His Excellency the Vice-President has judged it proper to address a letter to the Vizier, expressive of his concern for his Excellency's indisposition, and of his satisfaction at the prospect of his speedy recovery. That letter will be transmitted to you from the Persian Department. It is superfluous to signify to you his Excellency in Council's particular approbation of the soothing attentions which you have manifested towards the Vizier on this occasion.

3. The circumstances and observations stated in your despatch of the 8th instant, combined even with the conciliatory language of the Vizier's letter to your address of the 9th, have not appeared to Government to render necessary any alteration of the instructions conveyed to you in my letter of the 12th, because they indicate no material change in that disposition of his Excellency's mind, with regard to the projected system of reform, on which those instructions were founded.

4. If his Excellency could be supposed to be sincerely desirous of effecting a reform of the present vicious system of assessment and collection ; if his objections to the proposed plan were not, as they unquestionably are, fictitious ; if (to use the language of the 7th paragraph of your despatch of the 8th instant) any prospect existed of inducing his Excellency " to fulfil his engagements " with you, and to execute the measures of reform, under the constant influence of your suggestions, proceeding on his own correct and unreserved communication of the circumstances to which your advice might be intended " to apply," it would be the duty of Government to persevere in urging his Excellency's execution of the suggested plan, not, however, by the compulsory means of menacing the withholding of our troops from the internal service of his country, for which, indeed, no necessity would then exist, but by arguments calculated to remove his objections, arguments to which, in the temper and disposition of mind above described, his Excellency might be expected to yield, or by compromises not subversive of the object in view. But, under the Vizier's most manifest aversion to the change of system, no advantage can be expected to arise from our perseverance. The force of argument he has resisted ; his own engagements he has retracted ; and the compromise proposed by himself he has declined to accept. The removal of one objection has been succeeded by another ; and finally, the whole course of his Excellency's conduct during the negotiation has demonstrated a systematic design to avoid the adoption of the proposed measures of reform, and warrants a conviction that, if his acquiescence be enforced by menace, or by importunity, he would clandestinely employ the means within his power of rendering it abortive.

5. The case which, as above cited, you have yourself described as enabling you with confidence to predict the success of the meditated measures of reform, cannot

cannot be expected to arise. In the disposition which his Excellency has so unalterably displayed, he might be compelled, but could not be persuaded, to fulfil "his engagements with you, and to execute the measures of reform under "the constant influence of your suggestions;" but there the effect of compulsion would cease. The disposition would be wanting, which should lead him to render your suggestions beneficial by "his own correct and unreserved communication of the circumstances to which your advice might be intended to "apply;" and that disposition would still prevail, which, as it has hitherto led his Excellency to obstruct, by every species of artifice and evasion, the introduction of the plan of reform, would actuate his secret endeavours to demonstrate the justice of his uniform aversion to it, by precluding the efficiency of its operation.

6. Unless, therefore, such a change should have occurred in the temper and disposition of his Excellency's mind, as to lead him cheerfully to co-operate in the measures of reform proposed to his adoption, limiting his objections to points of real doubt, not raising them, as hitherto, with the secret design of preventing the execution of those measures, Government must consider a further prosecution of the negotiation to be more than useless.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
19th July 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to the Government.

Ordered, That the Chief Secretary be directed to make the necessary communication to the Persian Secretary on the subject of preparing a letter suitable to the tenor of the foregoing one to his Excellency the Vizier.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d August 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. Since the despatch of my letter to your address, under date the 11th instant, I have visited his Excellency the Vizier daily, and I have observed the progressive diminution of all the unpleasant symptoms of his disorder, as well as the gradual restoration of his mind to that degree of tranquillity and of confidence in my friendship, which appeared to have suffered a temporary interruption under the supposed influence of the pernicious counsels of Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, with a reference to the recent discussions between his Excellency and me on the subject of a reform of his administration.

2. To-day I was sorry to observe a trifling alteration for the worse in his Excellency's general appearance, and to hear him complain of returning pain in his joints and increased restlessness in the night, which his Excellency's surgeon has ascribed to the operation of medicine partly, and partly to fresh cold: at the same time Mr. Law and Mr. Wilson concurred in still pronouncing his disorder to be unattended by any symptoms of danger, and to be in a train of certain removal by the operation of the alterative course of medicine to which his present restlessness is ascribed.

3. I have this day had the honour of receiving your letter of the 6th instant, in answer to my despatches of the 12th, 20th, and 28th ultimo, expressive of the final resolution of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council to desist from any further efforts, at present, for the reform of the Vizier's administration, and explanatory of the various grounds of political expedience and public faith upon which that resolution has proceeded.

4. The highly important considerations that have now led to the relinquishment of an object to which so much importance was originally attached, and the whole train of the reasoning which is contained in your present despatch, are

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of too conclusive a nature to admit of any suggestions on my part, with a reference to the probable effects of the final resolution of the Government, when it shall be made known to his Excellency the Vizier. But there are two material points in the character of my own negotiation with his Excellency to which I consider it to be my duty to solicit the attention of the Government, with a view to explain in a satisfactory manner the principle at least, if not to justify the particular terms, of the declaration which I conveyed to the Vizier in my letter of the 27th ultimo, and from which his Excellency the Vice-President in Council has been pleased to withhold his assent, as exceeding the intentions of the Government.

5. And first, I shall submit for the consideration of his Excellency in Council, with a reference to the tenth paragraph of your despatch, that no specific plan of reform has been ever pressed upon his Excellency the Vizier, without affording, at the same time, for his choice, an alternative by which the public faith of his Government, and the positive obligations of treaty, might be equally maintained and fulfilled; nay, that every suggestion which has been offered to his Excellency by me, from the commencement till the close of the late arduous negotiation, may be considered, in fact, as no more than an answer to some direct inquiry on his own part, with a professed view to the fulfilment of his acknowledged obligation to establish a system of internal government in his dominions, conducive to the happiness of his subjects, and to the security of their property and lives.

6. As a proof and illustration of this remark, I take the liberty of recalling to notice the conclusion of the ninth paragraph of my despatch to your address, under date the 8th of April, and the general tenor of my answers to the Vizier's observations on the contents of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, forming the second number of the enclosure of that despatch.

7. In the paragraph above alluded to, there are the following remarkable words: "I called upon his Excellency to acknowledge or disavow the obligation, &c. of the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession with Marquess Wellesley, and now candidly to declare to me, whether or not, in his own judgment, he had fulfilled, or attempted to fulfil, the purpose of that obligation. If he had not, it was his obvious duty, I observed, to consider the present remonstrance of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council as a solemn and serious demand for the fulfilment of a positive obligation on his part, by his adopting the plan of reform recommended to him by the British Government, with whose counsels he had engaged to conform, *or by suggesting and carrying into execution some other plan of his own, which should be equally calculated to answer the purposes of that obligation, namely, to provide for the security and happiness of his subjects, and to relieve the Honourable Company's Government from the extraordinary and disreputable burthen of supporting by force of arms an unjust and oppressive administration.*"

8. Of a tendency manifestly similar to that of the above quotation from my letter of the 8th of April, is the general tenor of my early discussions with the Vizier on the subject of the Governor-General's letter. His Excellency, in the outset, acknowledged his obligation to reform the system of his Government. He tacitly avowed his own inability to suggest an efficient plan for that purpose, and he called upon the British Government, in the person of its representative, to devise and arrange the details of an improved system of administration, such as the British Government might consider itself bound and authorized to support, without incurring any longer the reproach of abetting injustice and oppression. His Excellency further, after mature deliberation and discussion, acquiesced, and declared his acquiescence in the principal measures of reform which had been suggested at his own desire for his adoption; and he has finally retracted his acquiescence, under circumstances of extraordinary aggravation, which it is unnecessary here to describe.

9. It follows, therefore, or seems to my judgment to follow, that the ultimate declaration of a refusal of the aid of our troops to the oppressive and arbitrary demands of the Vizier's farmers and Aumils is not to be considered as the alternative of his Excellency's acquiescence in a specific plan of reform recommended

mended by the British Government, but partly as the alternative of his Excellency's adoption of any system or measures of reform, in other words, of his evincing a disposition to fulfil, in any respect, the obligation of the treaty; and partly as a just and legitimate exercise of the essential right of every Government to investigate and ascertain the justice of the demands which its power may be required to enforce, before proceeding to enforce those demands, by extensive and hazardous, as well as, in most cases, unnecessary warfare.

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from Resident at
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10. That the true meaning of the declaration which I thought it my duty to convey to his Excellency the Vizier, in my letter of the 27th ultimo, was no more than that of a resolution for the future exercise of the right above described, is the second important point in the character of my negotiation with the Vizier, to which I solicit the attention of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council; and for a proof of the justice of this remark, I will further take the liberty of referring to my despatch of the 8th of April, particularly the thirty-second paragraph of that despatch, and to the uniform tenor of all my communications with the Vizier, as well as to the impression which the declaration itself may have made upon his Excellency's mind, and which I will venture with confidence to describe as falling far short of that of a positive resolution, on the part of the Government, to refuse the aid of its troops in the suppression of any future disorder in his Excellency's country, to be occasioned by the oppression of his Aumils.

11. Indeed, the particular reference which the declaration in question contains to the concluding provision of the third article of the Treaty of Cession, seems to me to be demonstrative of its limitation to the future refusal of the aid, or support, of our troops *to the oppressive demands of the Aumils in the progress of their collection of the revenue*: a peculiar description of support for which no article of the treaty provides, and which, in fact, is expressly superseded by the provision above referred to, although the subsequent practice of the British Government, proceeding on principles of liberality to his Excellency the Vizier, have certainly tended to establish a belief in his Excellency's mind, that the British troops, like the armed Peons in his service, are the bounden slaves of his will, the necessary instruments of his oppression.

12. Whether this belief should be removed from his Excellency's mind, by a solemn declaration of the future intention of the Government to investigate the justice of the demands which its power may be required to enforce, or should continue to influence the Vizier's conduct, in direct opposition to our counsels, was the only question in my contemplation while conveying the suggestion which is contained in the concluding paragraph of my despatch under date the 28th ultimo, and I have only now to lament, that the imperfect or ambiguous terms of this suggestion, and of the declaration to which it referred, have given room for a construction by the Government of a delicate and embarrassing nature, so totally remote from my thoughts.

13. Having submitted these explanatory remarks, it only remains for me to express my ready and implicit obedience to the commands of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, which shall be carried into immediate effect as soon as the state of the Vizier's health shall admit of my entering on the subject.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
16th July 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. From the 16th till the 21st instant I continued my daily visits to his Excellency the Vizier, who seemed then to have entirely recovered his usual health, and requested, in an earnest manner, the future discontinuance of my daily visits, expressing the highest sense of my friendship, and the extraordinary gratification of his mind by the sedulous attentions which I had paid to him during the whole course of his illness.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. His

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. His Excellency has this day recommenced his usual exercise on horse-back, and has announced this circumstance to me as a proof of his entire recovery. It is my intention to offer a charitable donation on this occasion of a thousand Sicca rupees on the part of the Government, and a further sum of five-hundred rupees from myself, as a mark of respect for his Excellency, and a manifestation of joy at his recovery.

3. The present apparently happy frame of the Vizier's temper and disposition, if there were any certainty of its continuance, would authorize the hope of success in a renewal of the negotiation with his Excellency on the subject of a reform in his Government. But I consider myself as precluded from taking advantage of any circumstance for the renewal of this negotiation by the recent commands of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, communicated by your despatch of the 6th instant, and I shall therefore content myself with receiving such proposals on the subject as the Vizier may think proper to convey to me, and submitting those proposals to you for his Excellency in Council's consideration.

4. I shall embrace the first opportunity of representing to his Excellency the Vizier, that, although the unfortunate protraction of the discussions between his Excellency and me on the subject of a reform of his administration, and his Excellency's subsequent illness, have rendered the immediate adoption of the measures recommended by me inexpedient in my own judgment, as well as in the opinion of the Government, his Excellency should by no means, on this account, delay to prepare an answer to the Governor-General's letter, and that I have been particularly enjoined to obtain and transmit his Excellency's answer to that letter at the earliest practicable period. I shall, of course, accompany my representation with such further suggestions and remarks as may be calculated to make a salutary impression on his Excellency's mind, to render the tenor of his reply to the Governor-General's letter as satisfactory as possible, and to lead to the renewal of the negotiation under more auspicious circumstances at some future time, if the Government shall be pleased to authorize it.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
24th July 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That in reply to the two preceding despatches, the following letter be addressed to the Resident at Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, under dates the 16th and 24th ultimo, the former replying to the instructions of Government contained in my letter of the 6th ultimo, on the subject of the reform of his Excellency the Vizier's administration, the latter reporting the convalescence of his Excellency, and the course of proceeding which you proposed to adopt under the apparent improvement of his Excellency's disposition with respect to the measure of reform, combined with the obligation imposed on you by the instructions above referred to.

2. The terms of the declaration relative to the employment of the British troops, contained in your letter to the Vizier of the 27th of June, connected with the suggestion of the last paragraph of your despatch of the 28th of that month, certainly appeared to warrant the construction which gave rise to the observations of his Excellency the Vice-President in Council, conveyed to you in my letter of the 6th ultimo; for, in your address to the Vizier above-mentioned, you refer not only to the refusal of the aid of our troops "to the pre-
" sent baneful system, or to any of its instruments in the persons of the Vizier's
" Aumils," but also (hypothetically) to the case of his Excellency's "taking
" measures for the future coercion of his landholders and the suppression of
" insurrections,

"insurrections, to be produced by the despair of an oppressed population, without requiring the aid of the Honourable Company's troops;" and in the last paragraph of your despatch of the 28th of June you suggest "a firm and decided refusal of the future assistance of our troops to support the proceedings of the Aumils, or coerce the defaulting Zemindars," as a measure calculated to compel the Vizier's adoption of the proposed reform. The implied cases, then, in which the refusal of the aid of our troops was adverted to, comprehended an actual insurrection of his Excellency's subjects, as well as the resistance of the Zemindars to the oppressive demands of the Aumils.

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from Secretary to
Government.

3. These observations, however, are not stated with a view to oppose the explanation which you have offered, of the nature and extent of your declarations to the Vizier on the subject of the future employment of our troops in supporting the authority of his Aumils, but merely to shew the grounds of that construction of your report which appeared to require the discussion contained in my despatch abovementioned. Your present explanations appear to coincide with the following view of the rights and obligations of the British government under the treaty, and his Excellency in Council concurs in them under that supposition.

4. Admitting, in the terms of the ninth paragraph of your letter, that "the ultimate declaration of a refusal of the aid of our troops to the oppressive and arbitrary demands of the Vizier's farmers and Aumils" may with justice be considered "partly as the alternative of his Excellency's adoption of any system of reform, or, in other words, of his evincing a disposition to fulfil, in any respect, the obligation of the treaty, and partly as a just and legitimate exercise of the essential right of every Government to investigate and ascertain the justice of the demands which its power may be required to enforce, before proceeding to enforce those demands by extensive and hazardous, as well as, in most cases, unnecessary warfare;" the terms of this position express the necessity of an investigation into the equity of the demands to be enforced, and imply, on our part, a right of arbitration, both antecedent to the employment of our troops, whence it follows, that the declaration to the Vizier should have consisted not of the indefinite and unqualified "refusal of the aid of our troops to support the proceedings of the Aumils, or coerce the defaulting Zemindars," but of an alleged right of previous investigation, of a right to arbitrate the demands which the troops might be called upon to support, and of an intimation of the resolution of the British Government to exercise that right on all future occasions.

5. The case may be supposed of one or more Zemindars in a Province, driven perhaps to extremity by the injustice or exactions of an Aumil or farmer, refusing to pay any portion of the public revenue, assuming an attitude of resistance, and preparing to oppose any attempt, on the part of the latter, to enforce his demands. Such Zemindars must then be considered to be in a state of rebellion; and under the supposition that the local authority did not possess the power of reducing them to obedience, the demand of assistance from the British troops would be authorized by the stipulation of the treaty, and the case would require the march of our troops to the scene of these disorders, not, however, necessarily for the purpose of enforcing the demands of the Aumil, but for the preservation of tranquillity, in the first instance, and ultimately for the enforcement of the demands which, on investigation, might be found to be just. At the same time, that investigation would be prosecuted in the manner that might be settled between the Resident and the Vizier.

6. This course of proceeding would obviously require, as the alternative of the Vizier's declining the adoption of any reform, a declaration essentially differing from the terms of that which you actually conveyed to him, since it would require that the right of investigation and arbitration should be asserted and recognised in all cases in which the aid of our troops should be demanded.

7. I am now directed to signify to you the desire of the Vice-President in Council, that you will actually convey the intimation above described to the Vizier, adjusting with him, at the same time, the mode of enquiry to be

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from Secretary to
Government.

prosecuted for ascertaining the justice of the demands which our troops are required to enforce, observing, at the same time, the principle of proceeding explained in the 5th paragraph of this despatch.

8. This instruction is founded on the supposition that the Vizier will not have been induced cordially to enter into the scheme of reform which has been proposed, because that scheme involves an effectual restraint on the oppressions and exactions of his Excellency's officers, and the means of ascertaining the equity of their demands on the landholders; but if the change of disposition, adverted to in the third paragraph of your despatch of the 24th ultimo, shall have proved so essential as to lead his Excellency to acquiesce in the beneficial arrangements which he has hitherto resisted, you will, of course, under the instructions of the 19th ultimo, have prosecuted the negotiation, which by the orders of Government of the 6th ultimo you were directed to suspend.

9. I am directed to signify to you his Excellency in Council's approbation of your intention to offer a charitable donation of one thousand rupees on the occasion of the Vizier's recovery from his late severe indisposition, and you are authorized to charge also to the public account the further sum of five hundred rupees which you proposed to offer on your own part. You will, of course, take an opportunity of expressing to his Excellency the satisfaction with which the Vice-President in Council has received the intelligence of his recovery.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
2d August 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept. 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITIGAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th September 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. His Excellency the Vizier, although uniformly convalescent since the dispatch of my letter to your address under date the 24th ultimo, has not hitherto authorized me to report his entire recovery for the satisfaction of the Vice-President in Council, nor has he resumed the consideration or discussion of any question of importance depending between the two States.

2. He has, however, on one or two recent occasions, expressed his resolution to review the whole of the correspondence between us on the important subject of reform, for the purpose of preparing his answer to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, and he has further declared his intention of announcing to me, at an early period, his sentiments and ultimate decision on the subject of the Vice-President's letter, regarding the claims of the family of Hyder Beg, as well as his final determination on some other subordinate questions, the adjustment of which has been protracted by his Excellency's recent indisposition.

3. Although satisfied of the Vizier's recovery, and aware of his untoward disposition to procrastinate, by every possible pretext, the satisfactory adjustment of questions on which his own unbiassed judgment must be at variance with his personal interests and views, I have nevertheless thought it my duty to refrain from frequently urging his Excellency on any of the points under discussion, and have contented myself with expressing my regret, that the peculiar nature and unhappy protraction of his illness should have withdrawn his attention, at so critical a period, from the most important concerns of his government, and should have suspended the adjustment of questions, in which the common interests and reputation of both Governments are so eminently and particularly involved.

4. I can-

4. I cannot offer any conjecture regarding the probable time of my being enabled to report, for the information of the Government, the final decision of the Vizier on any of the questions that are pending; but I shall take advantage of every opportunity to recall them to his Excellency's notice, and I shall use every possible argument, and every effort of my judgment, to produce a satisfactory result.

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Consultations,
20 Sept. 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

5. In the mean time, I consider it to be my duty to submit, for the perusal of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed translations and copies of some letters and other documents which have recently passed between his Excellency the Vizier and myself, upon one of the points that are noticed in the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency, under date the 28th of December, namely, the restoration of Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier.

6. In no instance, whatever, has a vindictive spirit of resentment in the mind of his Excellency the Vizier towards the dependants of the British Government been more forcibly manifested than in his conduct to the only son and representative of his late respectable minister, the preceptor of his earliest youth, and the most faithful adherent of his fortunes, Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan.

7. The implacable enmity with which, on a former occasion, the Vizier would have persecuted Tujumool Hoosein Khan to perpetual imprisonment, or, perhaps, to an ignominious death, on the ground of a false and fabricated accusation of treason; the eagerness with which his Excellency took advantage of a recent opportunity to deprive Tujumool of advantages arising from the possession of his jagier; and, finally, the anxiety with which his Excellency now seeks for, and instigates the most frivolous and vexatious complaints against the landholders and peasantry of the jagier, in the hope of compelling the possessor to relinquish his just right, or to forego a number of its advantages, are all equally demonstrative of the unhappy disposition of mind, with regard to the dependants of our Government, which I have so often ascribed to the Vizier, and which would seem to be daily increasing, instead of yielding, in any degree, to my respectful remonstrances against it, or to the correct and submissive demeanour of the persons who are subjected to its effects.

8. I trust that the tenor of my last letter to his Excellency, on the subject of Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, will suspend for a considerable time, if it do not entirely preclude, the renewal of those frivolous complaints; and, at all events, I am already so completely in possession of the sentiments and wishes of the Government, with a reference to Tujumool and his jagier, that the object of the foregoing remarks is merely to illustrate a correspondence, which I have deemed it to be my duty to submit for the notice of the Vice-President in Council.

9. In addition to the correspondence above-noticed, I transmit to you, for his Excellency's perusal, a translation of a letter to my address, and of instructions to the Cutwal of Lucknow, which I have more recently received from the Vizier, on a subject highly interesting in itself, and connected with the general question of reform, as discussed in the Governor-General's letter, and particularly in his Lordship in Council's instructions, under date the 28th of December, namely, the police of the metropolis of Oude.

10. Being occupied in preparing an answer to his Excellency the Vizier's letter on this subject, in which I propose to review the proceedings of the nominal courts of justice at Lucknow, and the conduct of the police of the city, in as far as they have fallen under my observation since my taking charge of the Residency at this Court, I shall postpone the submission of any remarks on his Excellency's letter, or its enclosure, and shall make them the subject of a separate despatch on a future more convenient occasion.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
31st August 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept. 1811.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 23d July 1811.)

I transmit a copy of an arzee received from Jumal-ood-deen, Aumil, setting forth the rebellious and refractory conduct of the Zemindars of Muchgawan in Hurdooe, the jagier of Tujumool Hoosein Khan, with a reference to the boundary of the village of Malickpore Burnah, belonging to the Khalsah. My hesitation in giving up the jagier to the management of the Khan proceeded on my natural apprehension of such occurrences as this, which has now been realized; and as such conduct must necessarily occasion loss to the Sircar, I desire that you will write to the Khan to prohibit such practices on the part of his Zemindars.

Enclosure in
the Vizier's Letter.

The Arzee of Jumal-ood-deen, dated 27th of Jemadee-oo-sanee.

Between the Zemindars of Malickpoor Burnah, in Pergunnah Race Barrellie and the Zemindars of Muchgawan in Hurdooe, Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, a dispute had long ago subsisted respecting the limits of their villages, and many years be elapsed since a settlement of the dispute was effected, and the disputed lands were assigned by arbitration to the Zemindars of Malickpoor Burnah, who continued in the possession of those lands till the year 1218 fusly, and have several documents to this effect under the seal of Almass Ale Khan, formerly manager of the jagier. During the time of Joogul Kishore, late Aumil of Barellie, the Zemindars of Muchgawan attempted to repossess those lands, but their claim being totally groundless, the lands continued, as before, in the possession of the Zemindars of Malickpoor.

Recently, when those latter Zemindars commenced the cultivation of the lands for the present fusly year 1219, about three hundred armed men from the village of Muchgaun prevented them from doing so, and are acting in a rebellious manner to the manifest loss of the Sircar. I have, therefore, represented the whole matter to the Presence, in the hope that orders may be issued to Tujumool Hoosein Khan for the punishment of his Zemindars, or that I may be authorized to adopt measures for this purpose.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written 3d August 1811.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 23d ultimo, with the enclosed arzee from Jumal-ood-deen, conveying a complaint against certain Zemindars of the village of Muchgaun in Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier.

Immediately after the restoration of the jagier by your Excellency, in compliance with the earnest advice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, while announcing this happy event to the Jagierdar, I cautioned him, in terms the most impressive, with a view to the prevention of complaints of the nature which is now before me, and I had every reason to be satisfied with the assurances which he conveyed to me on that occasion, and with his subsequent becoming conduct in taking written obligations from all his Zemindars for their peaceable and submissive behaviour, with a reference to your Excellency's Aumils, and to all the surrounding Zemindars.

Under these circumstances, I was naturally mortified and surprized at the nature of the complaint which your Excellency found it necessary to convey to me, and I instantly summoned the Dewan of Tujumool Hoosein Khan to rebuke him for the supposed misconduct which had given rise to it. I further wrote a letter to the Jagierdar in the terms of the accompanying document; and I have received from him, both verbally and in writing, the most positive and solemn assurances that the complaint is totally groundless. A copy of his letter to my address, with three original and authentic documents which were enclosed in it, are transmitted for your Excellency's perusal; and I beg that you will consider them attentively, and inform me of their effect upon your mind.

To

To my candid and unprejudiced judgment, the enclosed documents establish, in a most satisfactory manner, the innocence of the Zemindars of the jagier, and the groundless nature of the complaints which the Aumil has preferred against them.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept. 1811.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Tujummool Hoosein Khan to the Resident. (Received the 3d
August 1811.)

Letter
from Tujummool
Hoosein Khan.

After the usual compliments.

I have been favoured with your letter conveying a copy of his Excellency the Vizier's shookha to your address, and a copy of the arzee of Jumal-ood-deen, Aumil of Dalmow Barellie, addressed to his Excellency, respecting disturbances said to be excited by the Zemindars of Muchgawan in my jagier with the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah belonging to the Khalsa. Immediately on my receipt of your letter I despatched a servant to Hurdooee, to ascertain the real circumstances of the case, which I now proceed to submit to you. The lands which are now in dispute have been in the possession of the Zemindars of Muchgawan from time immemorial till the fusly year 1217, and the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah had never till then preferred any claim whatever to those lands. In the fusly year 1217, about a month before the jagier was restored to me, when the servants of Sewukram left the district, Nujum-ood-deen, the Aumil of Barellie, taking advantage of the absence of my Aumil, brought people with him to the boundary and began to cut down the grain, which he took away. The Zemindars of Muchgawan came to me to complain of this outrage, and I, being ever desirous of avoiding any ground of complaint, sent Mohummud Roshun, the Naib of Hurdooee, to Jumal-ood-deen, Aumil of Barellie, with a view to an amicable adjustment of the dispute. Jumal-ood-deen accordingly proposed to settle the matter by reference to witnesses on both sides, and for this purpose got the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah and Muchgawan to execute an ekrar namah and moochulka, which he put upon the records of his office, of which I enclose copies, attested by Nowindah Ray, Canoongoe of Barellie, for your information; and I issued positive orders to the Zemindars of Muchgawan not on any account, to sow the ground, though they might be losers by this order, till the dispute should be finally settled, nor has any one to the present time even ploughed the ground: and, notwithstanding that Jumal-ood-deen originally proposed this mode of settlement, he has directed the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah to cultivate the lands in dispute. The Zemindars of Muchgawan have merely represented to the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah, that they should abstain from cultivating the ground till the dispute might be settled by witnesses, and no other circumstance, nor even conversation, by which any disturbance could be raised, has passed between the parties. But Jumal-ood-deen has misrepresented the circumstances, and brought forward the above message as a cause of complaint, and submitted it as such to the Presence.

With regard to what he has written in his arzee, that the ground in question was in the possession of the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah till the year 1218, this assertion is totally false, and is in opposition to the contents of the ekrar namah. As a faithful subject of this Government, and submissive in every respect to your commands, it is impossible that I should have departed from the orders which you conveyed to me at the time of the restoration of my jagier. In obedience to those orders, I took written obligations from all the Zemindars of the jagier for their peaceable and submissive conduct with a reference to the Zemindars of the Khalsa. In the month of Rubbee-oos-sanee, two brothers of Hinna Dobay, Zemindar of Purnawan, in the jagier, were killed by Neel Kanth, Puttadar of Serai, in the Elaka of Hydergurh, belonging to the Khalsa, without any cause whatever; yet the Zemindars of the above place did not retaliate on that occasion, nor did I represent the circumstances to the Presence, from the fear of giving trouble or offence: and how then is it possible

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possible that the Zemindars of the jagier should have acted on the present occasion in the outrageous manner which is described by the Aumil? I enclose copies of two statements; one of the innocence of the Zemindars of Muchgawan, attested by several Zemindars of Barellie, and the other containing proof that the land in question belongs to Muchgawan, attested by several Zemindars belonging to the Khalsa, as also a Moochulka from the Zemindars of Malikpore Burnah, executed in the year 1212 Hijree; from a perusal of all which you will be fully acquainted with the real circumstances of the case.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Here follow copies of the enclosures mentioned in this letter, which it has not been deemed necessary to translate.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 18th August 1811.)

I transmit, for your perusal, a statement having reference to the boundary of the town of Hurdooee Khass, in the jagier of Tujummool Hoosein Khan, and of the adjacent village of Rampore, in purgunnah Tholundee, belonging to the Khalsa.

I hesitated in giving the jagier from apprehensions of this nature alone, and my fears have been all realized.

Statement enclosed in the preceding.

The following is a correct statement of the boundary of Kusbah Hurdooee Khass, belonging to the jagier of Tujummool Hoosein Khan, and the village of Rampore Mohee-ood-deen, in purgunnah Tholindee, attested under the seals of Gunga Persaud, Mohurrir of the Seeghadars, Sheo Gholam Sing, Chowdree of purgunnah Tholindee, Shewa Chowdree, Kadir Bukhsh and Fukeer Bukhsh, Canoongoes of the said purgunnah.

Heera Sing, the Zemindar of Hurdooee Khass, with great audacity, being supported by the Aumil of the jagier, laid claim to about one hundred and fifty begahs of ground capable of cultivation, besides the jungle lands, and raised a disturbance in the district with a view to obtaining possession. In order to quell this disturbance and settle the dispute between the Zemindars in the fusly year 1192, in presence of Fyz Bukhsh, the Tehsildar of Hurdooee, Naib of the late Almass Aleec Khan, and Mal Doss, the Tehsildar of purgunnah Tholindee, Naib of Rajah Setul Pershaud deceased, and of many Seeghadars and Zemindars of the neighbouring villages, the trial of lifting a red-hot ball was referred to; and as God is inclined to favour the just, the hand of Gunga, Zemindar of Hurdooee, was burnt, from which period till the year 1209 fusly, the lands in question were considered as the property of the Zemindars of Rampore.

In the year 1210, however, owing to the support of the Naib of Almass Aleec Khan and to the disturbances excited by the said Heera Sing, Zemindar of Hurdooee, the lands were allowed to lie waste and have never been cultivated since that period.

As the country has now become amaanee, the Zemindars of Rampore wish to plough and cultivate their lands, which Heera Sing and other Zemindars of Hurdooee, being protected by Tujummool Hoosein Khan, prevent them from doing, and intend to build a garden-house on the ground.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 26th August 1811.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept. 1811.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 13th instant, with the enclosed statement, having reference to the boundary of Hurdooee, in Tujummool Hoosein Khan's jagier.

From the tenor of this statement, it appears that the lands which are now in dispute have been suffered to lie waste entirely, and have never been occupied by the Zemindars of Rampore or of Hurdooee since the year 1210 fusly, a period of nine years: and this circumstance, of itself, seems to me to be nearly conclusive against the right of the Zemindars of Rampore, who, if their claim were not totally groundless, would most probably have asserted their right, and have obtained possession of the lands during the management of Ruhmut Alee Khan or Khanazad, or would at all events have preferred a complaint to your Excellency long ago on the subject of their present claim. But independently of the above consideration, as during the whole of the year 1218 the jagier was under the management of Sewah Ram, an Aumil of your Excellency's choice, it is a matter of the greatest surprize, and totally unaccountable to me, consistently with the justice of the present demand, that the Zemindars of Rampore should have been silent on the subject of their right during all that year, and should never have attempted to cultivate or take possession of the lands until now, when instigated to the measure, as it appears, by your Excellency's Aumil of Tholindee, under authority that might naturally be deduced from a source to which I should be very sorry to ascribe such a circumstance.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark, "that you hesitated in giving " the jagier from apprehensions of this nature," though it be ever my earnest desire to respect and support, instead of controverting your Excellency's observations, I cannot, with any justice, on the present occasion, admit that your Excellency has been pleased to confer a jagier on the Khan at the instance of the British Government; for, on the contrary, I have respectfully stated and proved to your Excellency, that the jagier, which is the subject of this address, was the unquestionable gift of your predecessor to the late Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan, under a regular altumgha grant descending to his heirs and successors, and consequently inherited by his only legitimate son, the present lawful possessor, and that the temporary consignment of the jagier to the management of Alnass Alee Khan, Ruhmut, and Khanazad, could never be considered as a transfer of the property from the Jagierdar, so as to require or authorize a grant *de novo* by your Excellency. I submit for your Excellency's perusal a copy of the answer of Tujummool Hoosein Khan to the statement received in your letter; and, with a reference to the present and all such future complaints, I consider it to be my duty to remark, that the character and conduct of the Jagierdar, and the repeated admonitions which I conveyed to him, preclude the possibility of my belief, that either he, or any person under his authority, should at any time sanction or permit, far less support or encourage, opposition to your Excellency's will, or disputes with other subjects of your Government on the part of Zemindars in his jagier. But if your officers and subjects be disposed and encouraged to oppress the Zemindars of the jagier, and to prefer groundless complaints to your Excellency, I foresee much inconvenience and unpleasant discussion between us, which it will not be in my power nor the Jagierdar's to prevent.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Answer to Statement respecting the disputed Boundary of Hurdooee, in the Jagier of Tujummool Hoosein Khan, and Rampore Mohee-ood Deen, in Purgunnah Tholindee, belonging to the Khalsa.

Enclosure in
Resident's Letter.

The ground in dispute belongs to Hurdooee and has no connection whatever with Tholindee. With regard to what is written in the statement, that in the fusly year 1192 the ordeal of lifting a red-hot ball was resorted to; that the hand of Gunga, Zemindar of Hurdooee, was burnt; and that, from that period till

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Resident's Letter.

till the year 1209 fusly, the lands in question were considered as the property of the Zemindars of Rampore, &c. The case is this :

In the fusly year 1192, a dispute respecting the boundary took place between the parties, who referred their dispute to arbitration, and the arbitrators took a moochulka, or penal bond, from both parties to the following effect: that if either party should lift a red-hot ball, and thereby prove his right, the ground should be considered as his, and the moochulka should be delivered to him as a dustavez, or voucher, for his future possession. The red-hot ball was accordingly taken up by Gunga, Zemindar of Hurdooe, uncle to Heera Sing, the present Zemindar of that place, and thrown to the spot in dispute; and as he was not injured in the least by the red-hot ball, his right to the ground was established, the arbitrators set up boundary marks on the spot, and agreeably to the resolution they had formed, gave the moochulka to Gunga, Zemindar of Hurdooe. A copy of this document is enclosed for his Excellency the Vizier's information.

In the year 1211 fusly, the said Zemindars again excited disturbances, when the arbitrators re-assembled on the spot, and decided, that as Gunga Zemindar of Hurdooe, had in the fusly year 1192 taken up the red-hot ball, that ordeal should now be gone through by Golaub, the Zemindar of Rampore; to which Golaub at first gave his consent; but when the iron-smith had heated the ball Golaub refused to lift it; on which the arbitrators convinced Golaub of the injustice of his claim, and in order to quell the disturbance they gave about thirty begahs of land from the Zemindar of Hurdooe to the Zemindar of Rampore, on which spot pillars of demarkation were erected, remains of which are to be seen at this day. A copy of the moochulka of the parties which was given to the punchayet, and a copy of the final agreement, are enclosed for further information.

It is next alleged in the statement, that the Zemindars of Rampore wish to plough and cultivate their lands, which the Zemindars of Hurdooe prevent them from doing, and intend building a garden-house on the ground. This statement is entirely false and unfounded. The Zemindars of Hurdooe have no intention of erecting a garden-house, nor has a single person from the other party appeared as yet to cultivate the ground, which, owing to the wretched and ruinous condition of the Zemindars of Hurdooe, and to no other cause, has been lying waste for several years. Every person in the neighbourhood is well acquainted with the truth of what is here stated, and Heera Sing, the Zemindar of Hurdooe, is ready to undergo the ordeal again to establish his just right.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Moochulka, under the Signature of Gunga, Zemindar of Hurdooe, and Hudae of Rampore, Purgunnah Tholindee, witnessed by Gungaram, Bhao Sing, Zorawur Sing, and Girdharee Loll, Canoongoes of Purgunnah Hurdooe, and others.

We, Gunga, Zemindar of Kusbah Hurdooe, and Hudae, Zemindar of Rampore, Purgunnah Tholindee, having formerly agreed to submit a dispute between us respecting the limits of our respective villages to arbitration by punchayet, and it having been determined by the arbitrators, with our mutual consent, that Gunga should establish the just boundary of Hurdooe by the ordeal of lifting a red-hot ball, after which a moochulka, under our joint signatures, fixing the boundary between us, should be given to Gunga, and remain for ever in his possession; therefore the dispute being now settled in the manner above described, and Gunga having submitted to the ordeal, this moochulka has been delivered to him accordingly.

Dated 25th Rubbee-ool-awul, 1210 Hijree, or 1192 Fusly, or Sumbut 1813.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.
Moochulka

Moochulka, under the Signatures of Golaub, Mokuddum of Rampore in Purgunnah Tholindee, and Mudaree Zemindar of Kusbah Hurdooe Khass, attested by Khandy Sing, Ameen of Almass Alee Khan, and others.

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We, Golaub, Mokuddum of Rampore, in purgunnah Tholindee, and Mudaree, Zemindar of Kusbah Hurdooe Khass, do hereby agree to abide by the decision of the punchayet regarding the dispute subsisting between us about the boundary of our villages, and to this effect we have written and delivered the present moochulka to Almass Alee Khan. Whoever shall depart from, or reject the decision of the punchayet shall be considered as a criminal to the state.

Enclosures
in Resident's Letter

In witness whereof, &c., dated the 5th Shabaun, 1211 Fusly, or 1218 Hijree.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Razee Numa entered into between Golaub, Mokuddum of Rampore, in Purgunnah Tholindee, and Mudaree, Zemindar of Kusbah Hurdooe Khass, witnessed by Dhun Sing and Gunga Sing, Zemindars of the village of Omrawan, in Purgunnah Sumrowteh, Dhokul Sing and Dhun Sing, Zemindars of the village of Aleepore, in Purgunnah Sumrowteh, and Narrain and Maun, Zemindars of the village of Deedwur, in Purgunnah Roy Barellie, Sewa Sookhloll and Mohkum, Chowdries of Buchrawan, in Purgunnah Tholindee, Sheikh Bugho and Imam Buksh, Canoongoes of Purgunnah Tholindee, Bukhtawur and Bustee, Chowdries of the village of Suleeto, in Purgunnah Hurdooe, Zorawur Sing Dena and Gunga Persaud, Canoongoes of Hurdooe, and Khandy Sing, Ameen of Almass Alee Khan, and Gokul Sing, Ameen of Roy Sumbhonauth, Pershaud and Gujraj, Chowdries of Hussenpore in Hurdooe.

We, Golaub, Mokuddum of Rampore, in purgunnah Tholindee, and Mudaree, Zemindar of Kusbah Hurdooe Khass, do hereby acknowledge and declare, that having already granted a moochulka to Almass Alee Khan and Roy Sumbhonauth, binding ourselves to abide by the decision of the punchayet respecting the limits of our respective villages, if either of us, or any of our dependents shall hereafter occasion a dispute or refuse to abide by such decision, we shall be accounted as criminals against the state, and subject to punishment accordingly.

In witness whereof, &c. dated the 5th Shabaun, 1211 Fusly, or 1218 Hijree.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 15th November 1811.

Bengal Political Consultations,
15 Nov. 1811.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In pursuance of the resolution announced to you in the concluding paragraph of my letter dated the 31st of August last, I have now the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copies of letters which have passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, on the subject of the police of his metropolis, and of the character and proceedings of the courts of justice, as they are termed, which his Excellency has established in Lucknow.

2. In as far as appearances indicate, the effect of my last letter to his Excellency on this subject has been salutary, to the extent of engaging his serious attention to the evils which I have described and their remedy ; though his actual, or intended, adoption of any of the measures suggested, has not hitherto been announced.

3. His Excellency's frequent complaints of some slight return of indisposition preclude the propriety of my urging him to a final declaration of his intentions

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tions on any of the questions that are pending, and it is totally impossible to predict at what period he may be pleased to announce to me his entire recovery from an illness that I have uniformly considered to be trifling, and by no means of a nature to prevent the despatch of important business.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th October 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 27th August 1811.)

I transmit, for your previous inspection, copies of a proclamation and orders which I propose issuing, with a view to the protection of the inhabitants of the city of Lucknow against robbery. Return the documents to me when you have perused them.

Proclamation.

This is to give notice, that no person residing in the city is hereafter unnecessarily to quit his house after the hour of twelve o'clock at night. If any person be obliged by indispensable business to be absent from home after that hour, he must be furnished with a light, such as a lamp or flambeau, and must be unarmed; and when challenged by the guards, who are appointed to patrol the streets during the night, he is to give a ready answer, and to state the reason of his being abroad. Any one who, after the above hour, shall be found in the streets with arms in his hands, without a light, and on being challenged shall not explain in a satisfactory manner the reason of his being from home, or shall prevaricate in his replies to the patrol, shall be immediately taken into custody.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure
in Vizier's Letter.

Orders addressed to Dhoomun Beg, Cutwal.

It being the constant object of my wishes and anxiety to secure to my subjects the protection and peaceable enjoyment of their lives and property, I have therefore, with a view of putting an effectual stop to the perpetration of robbery and murder in this city for the future, issued the following rules, which it will be your duty hereafter to observe. You must be peculiarly alert and vigilant, both night and day, and must take care that no inhabitant of the city sustain the least injury from robbers.

First. — Your deputy, attended by a guard, must patrol the streets of the city from twelve o'clock at night until morning, for the purpose of seizing thieves and protecting the citizens from being attacked by them.

Second. — The proclamation, a copy of which is enclosed, is to be pasted up in the most public places of the city for the period of three days, after which you are to direct your deputy to apprehend and lodge in the Chebootra for examination all persons who may be found strolling in the city after the hour of twelve o'clock at night, with arms in their hands, without a light, and who may refuse to assign the cause of their being from home, or may prevaricate in their answers to the patrol. If, on examination, they shall be found to be delinquents, the report concerning them is to specify whether or not they are servants of the Presence, — if not servants, on whom they depend. If nothing shall appear against them they are to be discharged.

Thirdly. — If any person shall be found with implements prepared for robbing or house-breaking, such as those used in mining, rope-ladders, nooses, or bunches of keys, and the like, or may be found in the act of mining, or placing ladders against the wall of a house, they are to be taken into custody immediately; but if those implements shall not be found in their possession, they are not to be confined.

Fourthly. — If any person be taken up for theft or robbery, or if any citizen shall inform against another as belonging to a party of thieves, you are to enquire of the informer the means by which he can establish his accusation; and

and if the proofs shall appear to be satisfactory, you are to report the circumstances of the case and proceed as hereafter commanded.

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Fifthly.—Every person seized for robbery, and against whom sufficient proof of the crime shall appear, is to be handed over to the Adawlut, to be dealt with according to law, as in cases of this nature the law alone is to have effect, and the Presence can take no cognizance of such cases.

Enclosure
in Vizier's Letter:

Sixthly.—In carrying into execution the foregoing orders the utmost caution must be observed, for the purpose of preventing bloodshed, in seizing the persons of robbers; but if a robber shall make use of arms in his defence, you are to employ the same means to apprehend him.

Seventhly.—All persons having empty houses to dispose of by hire must be prohibited from letting their houses without previous security, and being satisfied on all points regarding the persons who may wish to reside in them.

Eighthly.—Every person once tried and punished for robbery or theft, if seized and convicted again of a similar offence by the Adawlut, according to law, shall be branded in the face with a hot iron, and be banished from the city for life, the guards of the several entrances being strictly enjoined to prevent such persons from returning.

Ninthly.—The assembling of idle persons and people of bad and disorderly habits is to be prevented. Hircarrahs are to be employed to bring intelligence of such meetings, and on receiving such intelligence you are to send a person to cause them to disperse. You are likewise to summon all such disorderly persons before you, and take written securities for their future good behaviour, warning them that if found assembled again they will be taken into custody and punished. If, after such warning, they persist in disorderly conduct, you will furnish an account of them in writing, specifying whether they be servants or not, and on whom they are dependent if not servants.

Tenthly.—The foregoing instructions are all that seem necessary for the present. You shall hereafter receive such further commands as circumstances may require for your guidance.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 4th September 1811.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have been favoured with your Excellency's letter, dated 4th of Shabaun (27th August), covering drafts of a proclamation and instructions addressed by your Excellency to the Cutwal of the city, with a view to the prevention of robbery.

Although, from the tenor of your Excellency's letter, it may be inferred, that by conveying to me the documents above-mentioned, your Excellency meant rather to apprise me of a determination already formed than to require my advice or concurrence in a measure that was merely contemplated, yet the security of the lives and property of so large a proportion of the people committed by Providence to your Excellency's charge, is a subject of too important a nature to admit of my silence on this occasion, consistently with the duty which I owe to your Excellency as well as to my employers; and, accordingly, I had fully resolved to submit my sentiments on this subject at considerable length, in answer to your Excellency's letter, but being prevented by your impatience for my reply, I shall postpone till a future opportunity the detail of the remarks which I have to offer, and I shall limit the present address to the following short observations.

During a period of more than four years in which I have had the honour of residing at your Excellency's Court, the instances of robbery and theft, attended frequently by murder, which have been daily brought to my notice, by the only report which I receive, namely, that of the Cutwal's principal Chebootra in this city, have been constantly a subject of my regret.

The

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The measures which your Excellency has now been pleased to announce to me have already, if my memory serve me, been adopted, and proved by experience to be totally inadequate to their object, the protection of the city against robbery and murder as well as theft, which instead of having at all diminished during the period to which I refer, have appeared to me to increase in a great and alarming degree. Of the number of persons who have been plundered, it has never come to my knowledge that any individual has been redressed, by the restitution of the property stolen, or by the seizure and punishment of the offenders. I have myself repeatedly applied to your Excellency in behalf of English gentlemen and Natives, dependent on the British Government, residing in Lucknow or passing in the neighbourhood, who have been robbed, but my applications have been almost uniformly fruitless, and the evil against which I have remonstrated, namely, the total inattention of your Excellency's Government to the prevention of robbery and theft, or the detection and punishment of robbers, the most important of the duties of a sovereign, has been increasing in such a degree, as to excite my most serious concern, and to induce the resolution of submitting to your Excellency the absolute necessity of a reform in the police of this city at the earliest practicable period.

On the performance of this duty I was bent, when the arrival of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter to your Excellency, dated the 28th of December last, containing or referring to a more general and comprehensive system of reform for every department of your administration, commencing with the collection of your revenue, suspended the execution of my design, and by engaging apparently your Excellency's serious attention, afforded the happy presage of a complete and beneficial reform in every branch of your Government, including the department of police, which was intended, agreeably to my instructions, to have followed, and not to have preceded the satisfactory settlement of the revenue.

Your Excellency having now, however, of your own accord, and during the suspension of the other important and leading arrangements, turned your thoughts to the reform of the police and the prevention of disorders in the city, and having pressed me for a speedy answer to your letter, I shall only for the present observe, that the measures which your Excellency has described, though they appear to be for the most part unobjectionable, are, I fear, inadequate to the end. God grant that they succeed and promote your Excellency's reputation.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 16th Shabaun 1226, or 6th September 1811.)

I have received your letter of the 14th instant (4th September) in answer to my shookha of the 4th.

In reply to your observation, that in the long course of "more than four years," &c. the truth is, that thefts and robberies are not new occurrences: they were frequent before my accession to the musnud. It is evident that no regulations for the prevention of such evils were heretofore established, the observance of which, on my part, could have precluded robbery or theft, or the abolition of which by me could have revived the evils described.

With regard to your remark, that "it has never come to your knowledge " that restitution was made to the persons plundered of their property, or that " the plunderers had been seized and punished." The matter stands thus: Whenever information reaches me of any persons having been robbed, orders are issued, without waiting for the complaint of that person, to search for and produce the stolen goods, and to apprehend the thief. The property, if recovered, is, after ascertaining the owner, restored to him. The offenders are also prosecuted by those whose business it is to convict them, and the sentence of the

the law, whether it be corporal punishment, fine, or imprisonment, is inflicted upon them. Agreeably to this practice, the property of several persons has been delivered over to you. It is, however, a custom among the people of this place to hide their wealth and effects, and then give out that they have been plundered.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

As to the robberies committed on English gentlemen and their dependants, of which you take notice, I certainly return you answers corresponding to the state of circumstances which come to my knowledge relative to the plunder of their effects.

What may be the regulation in the British provinces for the recovery and restitution of stolen property, I am unable to assert or explain, for even there the declaration of the claimant, unsupported by credible testimony, is insufficient to procure him redress, and of this fact I have myself had experience. What country, indeed, is there, in which thefts and robberies do not occur? Though in my country an additional evil prevails, namely, that thousands of persons, through want of employment, are destitute of the means of subsistence, and it cannot, therefore, be a matter of surprise, that they should commit acts of the nature in question. The number of men that I employ merely for the protection of the city, is greater than has ever been employed at any former period of time, and to secure that object no means in my power have been neglected; but it is impossible for me, without legal conviction, to deprive any person of life or limb. What I had further to say to you on this subject, I communicated to you on Saturday, when we met, and it is of course still in your recollection.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 7th October 1811.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

In a letter which I addressed to your Excellency on the 14th of Shabaun (4th September last), I promised to submit to you, in detail, my sentiments on the important subject of the police of the metropolis of your dominions, and the protection and security of its inhabitants against the occurrence of robbery and theft. I now proceed to the performance of my promise, and I shall conclude my present address by replying to certain remarks which are conveyed by your Excellency's letter, under date the 16th of Shabaun (6th September).

The extraordinary frequency of robbery and theft in this city appears to me to be ascribable, of necessity, to some one, or to all of the following causes : The connivance of the Cutwal and officers of your Excellency's Adawlut with the perpetrators of those crimes, the neglect or incapacity of those officers, or their want of the necessary authority for prevention, detection, and punishment.

That most of the officers of your Excellency's courts of justice in this city are unworthy of the trusts which are reposed in them, and incapable of the discharge of their duties, I am fully warranted in inferring, from my personal observation and knowledge during a period of several years since the date of my arrival at Lucknow. It were improper without proof to assert, that they are equally corrupt as unworthy in the other respects which I have noticed; but that this is also the fact, is the universal belief of the people, or at least of those with whom I have conversed on the subject; and, indeed, when the salaries alone of your Excellency's judges are considered, namely, allowances of from fifty to one hundred rupees at the utmost per mensem, it is scarcely possible to suppose that the great ends of justice can be answered, or the duties of a magistrate be performed with integrity, by persons who are thus circumscribed, in the means of preserving their independence, or of supporting the dignity of their stations.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I shall here detail, for your Excellency's notice, what has gradually come to my knowledge regarding the character and conduct of your judges during the last four years.

At the commencement of this period, it would appear that a person of the name of Ab-oor Rehm presided over the Foujdaree Adawlut, and was shortly afterwards dismissed, for reasons which I cannot with accuracy describe, but under circumstances which gave cause for the belief of his conviction, in your Excellency's judgment, of some very heinous offence. He was succeeded in his office by a person named Obcid-oollah (more generally known as Nooroollah), who exercised the chief authority in the Foujdaree Adawlut for a considerable period of time. The oppression of this person over the lower orders, and indeed over all classes of your Excellency's subjects in the city, as described to me, had been boundless; and on this account, I suppose, as well as his notorious conviction of bribery, he too was dismissed from his office in the course of the present year. But whatever has been the cause of his removal, the infamy which followed that event is known to exceed all description. A multitude of unfortunate persons, from whom he had extorted large sums of money as bribes, assembled tumultuously at his gate, for the purpose of inducing him to refund the profits of his corruption as a magistrate, and he was treated in the manner which he deserved, and which can never be forgotten in this city, where it was witnessed by all the population. At length, after having satisfied some of the most pressing demands to a considerable amount, as I have heard, he was freed from the importunities and indignities of the mob, through the interference of your Excellency's son, Nusseer-ood-Dowlah, who placed him in a state of mild confinement for a time; and he has since been liberated, as I learn, through the intercession of your Excellency's servants (on what grounds or from what motives, I know not), while the persons, his accusers, whom his tyranny and oppression had ruined, have had no justice nor redress.

Saeed-ood-deen, who succeeded Nooroollah as chief judge of the Foujdaree Adawlut, is reported, and I believe the report, to be still more unworthy than his predecessor of the sacred and important trust which your Excellency has been pleased to commit to him. Independently of his incapacity, from a total ignorance of the law, he is asserted to be still more corrupt, and to carry the practice of bribery, and of levying contributions from both plaintiff and defendant in every cause, to a greater extent than any of his predecessors in office.

If such be the character and conduct, and such they are stated and believed, of the Moulvees of the criminal court, or Foujdaree Adawlut of Lucknow, what I have heard of the Dewanee Adawlut, or of your Excellency's civil court, yields in no respect to the former. It would occupy a volume, if detailed, but I shall not attempt a detail of it, and passing over the proceedings of that court in all other respects, I shall merely advert to the practice in every cause which comes before it, of altering and perverting the statements, not only of the contending parties, but also of the witnesses in the suit, and of exhibiting those garbled and fictitious statements, as the grounds of a legal decision, as contrary to law as to justice, and equally partial and corrupt. Of this deplorable practice I have myself had satisfactory proof on several occasions, in the course of trials in which subjects of the British Government have been parties (as in the cases of Moonshee Hussun Alee, of Moonshee Ameer Alee, and others), the proceedings in which were conducted by the officers of the Dewanee Adawlut.

Your Excellency will probably observe, that many of the circumstances which I have stated with a reference to both the Adawluts, being merely matters of hearsay, have no foundation in fact; yet I may be permitted to answer to this remark, that the general opinion and belief of a large portion of mankind cannot possibly be destitute of some foundation in truth, that I myself have had abundant proof of alterations being made in the written statements on both sides of a cause, and in taking down the testimony of witnesses; and that there is ample and just ground to infer, that persons in judicial situations, who have been guilty of this latter offence, would not hesitate to commit the most
heinous

heinous and most aggravated crimes, of which a corrupt magistrate can be suspected.

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So much with regard to the proceedings of the courts of justice in this city; and now, with a reference to the police, or to the conduct of your Excellency's Cutwals, the following is a summary of facts which consist with my particular knowledge, and from which the inference is sufficiently clear.

Meer Behadur Alee, who held the office of Cutwal at the period of my arrival in Lucknow, having been for some reason displaced, Dhoomun Beg was appointed to succeed him, and to this person an extraordinary establishment was assigned, with the view, as was naturally supposed, of effectually guarding the city, and protecting its inhabitants against theft, robbery, and murder, the alarming frequency of which had apparently at that time engaged your Excellency's serious attention.

The total and notorious failure of Dhoomun Beg in the discharge of all the duties of his office, the increase instead of diminution of the evils, for the prevention of which, apparently, so large an establishment had been assigned to him, can scarcely require to be stated. Every month, every week, nay, every night of the year, I may say, has the house of some respectable inhabitant of this city, or some person whose supposed circumstances created temptation to thieves, been attacked and plundered by bands of robbers, who, without the smallest apprehension of consequences, proceed with torch lights in their hands through the streets, to execute their atrocious purposes; and after violently entering the houses, extorting by violence and fear a confession and exposure of property, not content with the plunder of the whole, which is carried off in triumph unmolested, they shut up the sufferers in their rooms and leave them to perish unheard, or, if heard, without hope of redress.

It is known to your Excellency, as well as to me, not only that the establishment of armed Peons under the authority of the Cutwal is sufficient to enable that officer to have ample guards in every street and corner of the town, for the protection of the inhabitants from robbery, but that numerous guards are actually posted by the Cutwal in every street and corner during the night, who might effectually preclude the perpetration of the crimes which I have stated. It is further the practice of the Cutwal, under your Excellency's orders, as I suppose, that on every occasion of a robbery, a particular and an accurate list of the articles stolen be demanded and delivered, under a penalty, by the person whose house has been plundered, with the avowed view of detection. Yet, under all these circumstances of apparent vigilance and precaution, it has never come to my knowledge, that the property of any person plundered has been restored, or that a robber has been detected and punished; and certainly, upon these grounds alone, there is obvious reason for inferring the most culpable neglect of the Cutwal, or his total incapacity for his office.

But let me inquire into the conduct of this officer, and the general management of the police, in another and more satisfactory manner. Who are the perpetrators of those crimes? Are they the inhabitants of your Excellency's capital, or marauders from the surrounding country? In the first case, as it is perfectly known that every street, nay every corner and alley, has not only its permanent guards, but Hurkarras and spies for Kote Gushtee to gain intelligence from every house in the town, it is certainly a matter of surprise, that no account can be had of those residentiary robbers and thieves who infest the peace of the city. In the second case, since it is fully established that no person, of whatever condition, respectability, or rank, can at any time have egress from the city without a passport from your Excellency's officers, nor can any person enter the town without being subjected to a minute and rigorous search, the ingress and egress of thieves, save by connivance of the Cutwal or his subordinates, are matters of still greater wonder.

Again, regarding the property stolen, let me inquire: Do the thieves hoard it up in their houses? That they do not is the most probable supposition; and, in this case, it unquestionably follows, that they dispose of their stolen goods in the

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the city, or carry them out of it to some other market for sale : yet the Cutwal, as I am credibly informed, by your Excellency's positive orders, has taken moochulkas, or penal bonds, from all the shopkeepers in the city, binding them not to purchase or sell goods of any description, including vessels and ornaments or trinkets of silver or gold, without first giving notice at the chebootra, as well of the article to be purchased or sold, as of the name and place of residence of the purchaser or vender : and under such circumstances, it is difficult to conceive how the thieves can dispose of their plunder in the city, without its being known to the Cutwal. But to carry it out of the city without his connivance and consent seems to me to be still more difficult, or indeed to be totally impossible, since we know, as already observed, that a written passport is indispensable, and that even a passport does not preclude the minutest search, by the guards, of every passenger at the gates of the city ; nay, that persons of the poorest class having a few rupees in their girdles, are daily seized by the guards and violently brought back to the Cutwal, to be punished or fined at his discretion. The inevitable conclusion from these facts is, that the Cutwal must be in league with the thieves, or must be totally unmindful of his duty, or that the necessary authority is wanting to put a stop to the depredations which prevail.

In the first and second of these cases, the Cutwal is obviously unworthy of the important trust that is reposed in him, and moreover is deserving of punishment. In the third case, if it be true, as I suppose, that authority alone is wanting to the Cutwal, the fault or defect is in the system, not with him, and he cannot be considered as responsible.

In reality, according to my judgment, the system of your Excellency's police is extremely defective and inefficient ; and the weak and partial improvements which your Excellency has now in contemplation, and which, if I mistake not, have already been attempted and have failed, are in my opinion very unlikely to have any beneficial effect. The measures which I should deem most effectual towards the prevention or diminution of robberies and other crimes in this city, and in your Excellency's dominions at large, are as follow.

That your Excellency should, in the first place, select men of strict honour and integrity, of respectable birth and education, learned and skilful in the law, expert and assiduous in business, to be the judges of the two courts of justice in your capital, with salaries suitable to their stations, established on the most liberal scale, and powers entirely independent, in the exercise of their judicial functions, of your Excellency and the ministers of your Government : with this exception alone, that their proceedings in criminal cases, with the sentence or legal decision, (pronounced without reference to your Excellency or your ministers,) be finally reported to the Presence, for the purpose of being carried into effect. That, in short, your Excellency's authority should never interfere nor be referred to, save in cases of resistance to the judges, and for the purpose of the execution of their decrees, and, above all, that the situations of the judges should be permanent ; that they should on no account be subject to removal without conviction of incapacity, or crime.

The Cutwal of the city, in like manner, should be a person of the strictest integrity, distinguished for activity and zeal, diligent in the discharge of his duties, and watchful to preserve the peace of the city and to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants.

Under the authority of such an officer as this, if he were vested with the necessary powers, the establishment already maintained of *Peadas*, *Hirkarras*, and *Khakroubs*, would be amply sufficient for the protection of the peaceful inhabitants of the city and the prevention or detection of crimes. The character, condition, and circumstances of every individual in the town might be easily made known to the Cutwal, through the medium of those *Hirkarras* and *Khakroubs*, without any oppression of the inhabitants by unnecessary intrusion into their houses. Regarding persons who have no employment or ostensible means of subsistence, a stricter inquiry might be made ; and the information thus obtained, and properly used by the Cutwal, would speedily tend to the decrease of every species of vice.

The

The authority of the Cutwal of the city should be immediately dependent on the judges of the Foujdaree Adawlut, to whom his proceedings should be reported, and under whose control he should be placed; and for the purpose of aiding the Cutwal in the general superintendence of the police of so extensive a city as Lucknow, it seems expedient that subordinate Cutwals be appointed and stationed in the principal quarters of the city, where guards are at present placed. Those subordinate officers also should, of course, be respectable in their characters, just and upright in their conduct, and experienced in the duties of the police. It should be the province of those subordinate officers to watch over the conduct of the inhabitants in the several departments under their charge; and in the case of any robbery being committed, and the thieves or robbers being found in their circles, to seize them without any delay.

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Under arrangements of the nature described, improved by your Excellency's wisdom, there is every reason to expect that, in a limited period of time, the frequency of robbery and other crimes would be diminished, if they did not totally cease; and the merit of so important a reform would add greatly to your Excellency's reputation.

I now proceed to reply to some observations in your letter of the 16th Shabaun (6th September), as promised in the opening of this address.

And first, that "no system or regulation was formerly established for the prevention of the evils described," &c. (recapitulate the whole), is certainly true, as your Excellency remarks. Yet the general character of your Excellency's Government since your accession to the Musnud of Oude, and the ardour and diligence with which many other more favourite objects of your mind have been prosecuted and ultimately accomplished by new systems and regulations unknown in the time of your predecessor, render it a natural source of surprize and concern, that no system has been devised for the protection of the inhabitants of your capital against the frequency of robbery and other crimes.

Your Excellency has been pleased to remark, that "whenever intelligence is received," &c. (recapitulate). I too have been frequently informed of the measures adopted by your Cutwals, oppressive, in my judgment, in their execution, and by no means beneficial in their end, on occasions of the commission of robbery, with a view to discover the quality and extent of the property stolen from your subjects; but I have hitherto rarely heard an instance of the actual recovery of the property, or if recovered, of its restitution to the owner, and punishment inflicted on the offender: nor have I ever, on one occasion, been informed of the seizure of a robber in the act of house-breaking or theft, though the space of time which I have known to have been occupied in the act must have afforded ample opportunity for that purpose. A few instances of such meritorious conduct as this on the part of your Excellency's Cutwal, or his guards, would have an obvious tendency to check the extraordinary audacity of the thieves and robbers of Lucknow, and to diminish the frequency of their depredations.

With a reference to your Excellency's observation, "that it is the practice of the people of the city to conceal the property which they possess," &c. (recapitulate the whole). Two causes may be assigned for this practice; namely, first, a want of confidence in the Government, ascribable to various circumstances which I shall not on this occasion describe; and secondly, the natural dread occasioned by the frequency of robberies. Where confidence and security prevail there can be no occasion for concealment.

Your Excellency has further inquired, "in what country are the crimes of house-breaking and robbery unknown?" I am perfectly ready to acknowledge, that they are known in every country to a certain degree, and that the British dominions are not exempt from them; but your Excellency is doubtless aware that they are less frequent in most countries than in this, and particularly more frequent in Lucknow than in any other city in Hindoostan. You are further doubtless aware of the zeal and diligence of our magistrates to prevent the commission of those crimes, and to seize and bring to punishment the offenders, and that the diligence and success of your Excellency's officers in the execution of this

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this duty bear no comparison with those of the magistrates in the Company's dominions.

Your Excellency remarks, "that this country is subject to another evil," &c. (recapitulate the sentence). The remedy for the evil described, with a reference to your Excellency's country, seems to me to be as fully in your power as in that of any other Government in the world, with a reference to the country which it governs; namely, to employ and provide for its subjects, who are worthy and capable of employment, and to punish or expel the unworthy.

Your Excellency has finally asserted, that "the number of persons whom you employ, exclusively, for the protection of the city, is more than was ever employed for this purpose during the government of any of your predecessors." To which I beg leave to reply, that the employment of a number of people, if it fail to answer the purpose through the inefficiency, negligence, or criminality of the persons who are so employed, is worse than the want of such people; and during the government of your Excellency's brother, the late Nawab Asuf-ood Dowlah, it consists with my own recollection, that the Cutwals and Aumils were made responsible for the property of all English gentlemen and other dependants of the British Government, which might be stolen from them in the city of Lucknow or its vicinity, and even in remote districts of the country, as well as in the several cantonments of British troops, and that the uniform or frequent restoration of such property, or its value, was thought highly creditable to the friendship of the late Vizier for the British Government and its officers.

In like manner, I am ready to admit that, on some occasions, since your Excellency's accession to the Musnud, and even since I have had the honour of residing at your court, nay at my own particular instance, the stolen property of English gentlemen has been recovered and restored, to the credit of your Excellency's friendship, which I have never failed on such occasions to acknowledge with becoming thankfulness and praise.

To conclude, the becoming attention which your Excellency has begun to afford to the improvement of the police of your dominions, and your steady persistence in that attention, must be highly gratifying to me, and satisfactory in the extreme to our Government, who are your Excellency's sincerest friends; and the ultimate accomplishment of this great and important object, if pursued as so happily begun, is as certain in my mind, as it will be honourable to your Excellency's reputation as a Prince who studies and labours for the comfort and happiness of his people.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 28th ultimo, enclosing copies of your correspondence with his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of establishing an improved system of police within the limits of the capital.

2. His Excellency in Council highly approves the zeal, assiduity, and judgment, which you have manifested in exposing the excessive evils and abuses of the existing system, and in suggesting arrangements calculated to remedy them; and it will afford great satisfaction to his Excellency in Council, and will redound to the credit of the British Government and your own, if your laudable efforts to effect this necessary reform shall be ultimately attended even with partial success.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
15th November, 1811.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th March 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Mar. 1812.Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow,

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, a translation of a letter which I received some time ago from his Excellency the Vizier, conveying a requisition for the employment of the British troops in his Excellency's district of Dureeabad, and a copy of a letter which I deemed it to be my duty to address to his Excellency on the subject of that requisition.

2. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, in perusing this letter from the Vizier, will be pleased to bear in his mind the remarks which I took the liberty of submitting in my despatch of the 16th of July last, regarding the impression which was made on his Excellency's mind by the terms of the declaration conveyed to him in my letter of the 27th of June; and the substance and manner of the Vizier's requisition on this occasion will, I doubt not, serve to establish in his Lordship in Council's judgment, that my conception of his Excellency's sentiments was correct, and has been justified by his subsequent conduct.

3. In reality, the Vizier must have been aware that the sole object of the British Government, as explained to his Excellency by me, in its hesitation regarding the employment of our troops, or its eventual refusal to sanction military operations for the support of the authority of his Aumils, was a just and natural desire, proceeding on an unquestionable title, to be satisfied of the justice of the demands which our power might be required to enforce; and that the declaration in my letter of the 27th of June last was no more in its spirit, than the intimation of a firm and steady adherence, for the future, to the proposal originally conveyed, under the express instructions of the Government, for deputing an Ameen to investigate the causes of every disorder or resistance to the authority of Aumils, which our troops might be called upon to suppress; a proposal which his Excellency had hitherto uniformly resisted without any reasonable grounds, and to which it was thus declared to him that his future opposition would be vain.

4. Under the impression produced by the declaration as above described, and apparently distinguishing in his mind the case of a landholder resisting the oppressive demands of an Aumil from that of a rebel or criminal evading the punishment of his crimes, to the latter of which an unqualified right to demand the assistance of troops under the provisions of treaty was still supposed, and is readily admitted to apply, his Excellency, with his usual artfulness, required on the present occasion the employment of the Company's troops, not for the realization of his revenue, but for the punishment of an alleged offender against his laws, whom the Aumil was unable to bring to justice; while, on the other hand, the statement of the Aumil, on which his Excellency's requisition was founded, and my information through other channels, enabled me with certainty to refer the alleged disturbance in Dureeabad to an oppressive demand of the Aumil, and to the uniform mismanagement of that officer since the recent recall of our troops.

5. The instructions of the Government, therefore, under date the 2d August, which had already been long in my possession, and the execution of which had been deferred, partly in consequence of the Vizier's occasional indisposition, and chiefly by the hope of his acquiescence in the proposed system of reform, seemed to my judgment to apply with peculiar happiness and force to the case of the present requisition; and I deemed it to be my indispensable duty to take this opportunity of conveying to his Excellency the Vizier the declaration which is prescribed by those instructions.

6. The ultimate effect of this declaration remains yet to be seen. I have every reason to believe that it has made a considerable impression upon the mind of the Vizier, and will be productive of essential improvement in the general system of his administration, though its effect to induce his cordial acquiescence in the particular system of reform recommended by the British Government be still very uncertain.

7. The

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7. The motive of his Excellency's requisition was considered at the time of my receiving it to be chiefly experimental, if not entirely a finesse, and subsequent information has confirmed that belief in my mind. The alleged commotion in Dureeabad was never of any consequence, and has been very easily suppressed by the employment of a portion of the Vizier's irregular troops in support of the authority of his Aumil.

8. A progressive augmentation of his Excellency's troops has been recently the subject of conversation among many of his subjects in this city, but it was solemnly and earnestly disavowed by his Excellency, when slightly hinted at by me on a very recent occasion, and I have not hitherto obtained satisfactory proof of the fact.

9. The Vizier's extraordinary delay in transmitting an answer to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, under date the 28th December 1810, on the important subject of reform, can be ascribed to no other cause than his utter inability to offer any reasonable pretext for declining to acquiesce in the beneficial system proposed to him, every solid, and even plausible, objection to which has been already stated and removed, in the course of my discussions with his Excellency.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th February 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 17th December 1811.)

I transmit for your information the enclosed copy of an arzee from Imam Bukhsh, the Aumil of Dureeabad, setting forth the refractory conduct of Aman Sing, and the murder of a Zemindar named Kullunder Bukhsh, with that of several other persons.

As Aman Sing has murdered a Zemindar and several other persons, I desire that you will direct the commanding officer of the station nearest to Dureeabad to adopt the necessary measures for the apprehension of Aman Sing, and the destruction of his fortress.

Enclosure in
the Vizier's Letter.

The Arzee of Imam Bukhsh. (Dated the 13th December 1811.)

I have already represented to the Presence the refractory and disobedient conduct of the Zemindars of the district under my charge, who, in consequence of the delay in punishing them, have daily become more hardened and bold. On the 11th instant, as Kullunder Bukhsh, with some of his labourers, were cutting down mote in the village of Deronee, Aman Sing, the Zemindar of Kyampore, with several armed followers surrounded Kullunder Bukhsh and killed him, with three other persons in his service. While they were conveying this intelligence to me, at the distance of three coss from the scene of the affray, Aman Sing with his followers effected their retreat to the ghurry of Kyampore, where he has collected a large body of armed men, and is at present residing. He has caused the Ryots of his Elaka to desert it. Such a proceeding on the part of Aman Sing tends to excite other Zemindars to act in the same way; and as I have not a sufficient force with me, I cannot bring them to a sense of their duty. I have, therefore, represented the circumstances of the case to your Excellency, in the hope of receiving assistance.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 15th January 1812.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter dated the 17th ultimo, containing a copy of an arzee from Imam Bukhsh, Aumil of Dureeabad, and requiring the employment of a portion of the British troops for the suppression of alleged disorders in that quarter.

My

My delay in replying to your Excellency's letter has been owing partly to a consideration of the impracticability of employing our troops, under any circumstances, during the progress of the relief of corps, which has only recently been completed, partly to the occupation of your Excellency's time and my own in the duties of hospitality to our guests and in preparations for the late festival and other entertainments, and chiefly, I will own to you with candour, to the considerations which are stated in the sequel.

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

During the whole cold season of several succeeding years, and particularly during the last year, a considerable detachment of the Honourable Company's troops had been constantly employed in Dureeabad and the adjacent district of Rudowlee, in support of the authority of your Excellency's Aumils and for the enforcement of their demands against the Zemindars. That the whole of the districts in question were settled to your Excellency's satisfaction, and that every refractory landholder was reduced to submission or expelled at the close of the last season, is a fact impressed on my belief, and doubtless too on your Excellency's mind, by the statements of the commanding officers of the troops, and by my representations to your Excellency, founded on those statements, in my letters of the 27th of April, 22d of May, and 3d of June last. If such be the state of the case, to what cause have we now to ascribe the disaffection and revolt of the landholders, as represented by the Aumil of Dureeabad? If the representation of that Aumil be correct, can we ascribe it to any other cause than to his oppression, and the despair of the landholders of their ever obtaining redress from your Excellency's justice?

If the friendly and salutary advice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in his letter to your Excellency under date the 28th of December 1810; if my earnest, though respectful remonstrance, both by letters, and personally in your presence, had obtained that attention which they deserved, and had been followed by your Excellency's adoption of the system which his Lordship proposed to you, the beneficial effects of that system would long ere now have been seen, in the returning affection of your subjects, in their submission and attachment to your Government, and in the absence of even a disposition to revolt against the authority of your Aumils. I entreat your Excellency to reflect on the sole and obvious motive of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's remonstrance, as conveyed to you in the address which I have noticed, and of my repeated and urgent recommendation of the system which his Lordship's wisdom suggested for the future government of your dominions. Could they have any other motive, I will ask, than a regard for your Excellency's reputation, for the good order and happiness of your people, and the due realization of your revenue, combined with a natural desire to put a stop to the employment of our troops on services unnecessary and unworthy, the support of violence and oppression?

That this friendly and benevolent motive, if supported by your Excellency's concurrence in it and by your adoption of the system proposed, must long ere now have received its ample reward in the complete accomplishment of its object, without injury to your Excellency's rights or diminution of your power and authority, is an obvious and incontrovertible fact; and, consequently, your delay to give effect to that system, in disregard of my repeated advice, followed and aggravated, as the delay now is, by a demand of the employment of our troops on the bare representation of an Aumil, without previous investigation or inquiry, has been a cause of surprize and concern to me, which I can scarcely find language to describe.

It would seem that your Excellency has forgotten, or wilfully banished from your consideration, the whole of the salutary contents of the friendly letter of Lord Minto, of my respectful representations to your Excellency, and of our frequent personal and written discussions, during a period of several months, on the subject of the reform of your administration.

Is the fortress of Keeampore an ancient place of strength in the district of Dureeabad (a district so frequently, I may say, for a long period constantly, occupied by our troops), which has hitherto been concealed from the observance of your Excellency's Aumils and our officers, and has now suddenly come to light?

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

Or is it a fortress recently built, since the recall of the British detachment, with the connivance, or through the negligence of the Aumil, in direct disobedience of your Excellency's orders, and of your proclamation issued at my suggestion against the repair or re-building of forts? Or is it it merely the enclosed and partially fortified habitation of a Zemindar, who was formerly submissive to the Aumil, and has recently been compelled by oppression to take measures for his temporary protection against exorbitant demands, which can only be satisfied by his ruin, and whose ruin is, therefore, sought by the Aumil?

If the object of your Excellency's requisition, in the terms of your letter to me, be the seizure and punishment of a murderer, this service is not the duty of regular troops, nor is the performance of it practicable by their exertions. The apprehension of criminals and felons is the obvious duty of the police, of your Excellency's Cutwals and Thanadars, whose zealous exertions alone can be productive of the desired effect; for experience has repeatedly shewn to us, that the movement of a detachment of troops is the signal for the concealment of such persons, or their escape by such passes and routes as preclude their being followed by Sepoys. In this particular district of Dureeabad, an example of the truth of my remark has been very recently offered, and is doubtless in your Excellency's recollection. A compliance, therefore, with your Excellency's requisition, if the object be merely what is above supposed, would obviously prove totally useless: and, on the other hand, if the object be what is stated by the Aumil in his arzee, the support of his authority in the district at large, and the enforcement of his demands against the Zemindars, I leave it to your Excellency to judge on what possible pretext I can sanction the employment of the Company's troops in measures of coercion against the landholders, before I be satisfied of the justice of those measures, or on what grounds I can presume to disobey the express orders of the Government for my satisfying myself of the truth of the statements of your Excellency's Aumils. before I admit them as a plea for the necessity of military operations.

My letter of the 27th of June last to your Excellency's address, and the instructions of the Government, as well as the previous correspondence with your Excellency, on which the declaration in that letter proceeded, having engaged the serious consideration of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, I had long ago the honour of receiving his commands to submit to your Excellency a still more explicit declaration on the subject of that letter, in the hope of its impressing on your mind the manifest necessity of your acquiescence in the system of reform which was proposed to you; and your Excellency cannot fail to recollect the repeated intimations which I conveyed to you of my being charged with such a declaration, nor the causes that induced me to defer the communication until now. I am now compelled to submit it; and I shall do so in the terms of my instructions, recommending their important contents to your Excellency's most serious attention.

The principle of the declaration is this: that the Honourable Company's Government having undertaken, by the provisions of the treaty of 1801, to defend your Excellency's dominions against all foreign and domestic enemies, it follows as a necessary consequence of the above obligation, that the British Government must have a title not only to investigate, but to decide on the merits of all such claims and disputes between your Excellency's Government and its opponents, as may require for their adjustment the interposition of the British influence or power; because, otherwise, the engagement on the part of the Honourable Company to support your Excellency's Government would obviously imply an obligation for the enforcement of all claims and demands, without any reference to their justice; or, in other words, the enforcement of many claims and demands, of the absolute injustice of which the British Government might be satisfied.

The British Government has, therefore, an unquestionable right to investigate and to arbitrate all such claims and demands, on the part of your Excellency and your Aumils, as our troops may be required to support; and I have been commanded to intimate to your Excellency the final resolution of our Government to assert and to exercise this right, on every future occasion of a demand
on

on the part of your Excellency for the aid of the British troops to support the authority of your Aumils, adjusting, on such occasions, with your Excellency, the manner of prosecuting an investigation of the justice of the Aumils' demands.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Mar. 1842.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The instructions to this effect were received by me several months ago; but as they proceeded on a supposition that your Excellency should still refuse to acquiesce in the system of reform which was proposed to you, and as I had never hitherto relinquished the hope of your cordial acquiescence in that system, I delayed to communicate my instructions till your Excellency's unexpected requisition for the aid of our troops in support of the demands of an Aumil, unaccompanied by any manifestation of even a wish to reform the system of your Government, has now compelled me to execute the instructions with which I was furnished, for the purpose of meeting the exigency of your Excellency's continued refusal to acquiesce in any measures of reform.

I therefore declare to your Excellency, in the name of the British Government, its resolution, and the orders which I have received, to inquire into the nature and justice of the demands of your Excellency's Aumil of Dureeabad, before I can sanction the employment of the Honourable Company's troops in enforcing the payment of those demands; and, further, I solicit your Excellency to adjust, in concert with me, on the part of the British Government, the manner of prosecuting that inquiry.

I suggest, for your Excellency's consideration, the appointment of a trustworthy and intelligent person as an Ameen, whom I shall select for the purpose, to proceed to the district of Dureeabad, attended by a detachment of our troops to be formed from the corps at Secrota, to report on the state of the district, and to settle, under my instructions, to be prepared with your Excellency's concurrence, every question of revenue and dispute which may subsist between the Aumil and the landholders.

Under this arrangement, which it is my bounden duty to propose, if supported by your Excellency's approbation, I indulge a confident hope of the speedy restoration of tranquillity, and the satisfactory settlement of affairs in that portion of your Excellency's dominions, without the smallest occasion for bloodshed or for any warlike operations.

In submitting the above proposition, your Excellency will do me the justice to acknowledge, that I am guided solely and exclusively by the positive commands of the Government, which your unhappy and unexpected delay to acquiesce in the system proposed to you, or to reply to the Governor-General's letter, notwithstanding my repeated and earnest advice, has left me no alternative but to obey; while, at the same time, the proposition in itself, if duly considered by your Excellency, involves nothing but what is obviously just, and should be entirely satisfactory to your mind, or if unpleasant, can be easily obviated by your acquiescence in my friendly suggestions on the subject of the Governor-General's advice, as conveyed in his Lordship's letter.

I know nothing of the actual state of affairs in Dureeabad; but I presume that it must be considerably improved, from your Excellency's silence on the subject since the date of your letter to my address. Nevertheless, if your Excellency will declare from information subsequently received regarding the actual state of the district, that it is such as, in your opinion, to require the immediate presence of our troops to quell insurrection or rebellion, my disposition is so cordially bent on the satisfaction of your Excellency's mind and the preservation of peace in your dominions, that I am ready to order a force to proceed to the district in question, even before the appointment of an Ameen, or the adjustment of any plan for conducting the necessary inquiry into the cause of the disorders which prevail; and a force shall accordingly proceed to the frontier of the district of Dureeabad, for the purpose of suppressing those disorders, as soon as I shall be honoured with a communication of your Excellency's wishes on the subject.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Mar. 1812.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch under date the 27th ultimo, and to signify to you the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council's high approbation of the whole tenour of the letter which you addressed to his Excellency the Vizier, under date the 15th of January, on the occasion of his demanding the aid of the British troops for the suppression of the disturbance in the district of Dureebad, and which appears to his Lordship in Council to have been framed with a peculiar degree of judgment and ability, and to have placed the relative rights and obligations of the British Government and his Excellency, with respect to the employment of our troops in the suppression of disturbances within his Excellency's dominions, and to the investigation and arbitration of the disputes in which such disturbances may have originated, in a just, precise, and forcible point of view.

2. His Lordship in Council admits the justice of the inferences which you have deduced from the conduct of the Vizier on this occasion, and is satisfied that the impression produced on his Excellency's mind, by the declarations which formed the subject of the remarks of the Vice-President in Council, contained in my despatch of the 6th July last, has been consistent with the intent of those declarations, as explained in your letter to my address of the 16th of that month.

3. You very properly took advantage of the occurrence reported in your despatch now acknowledged, to convey that explanation to the Vizier in the distinct and positive terms prescribed by the instructions of Government of the 2d of August. When the result of that communication shall have been reported by you, his Lordship in Council will be prepared to resume the consideration of the important subject of the reform of his Excellency's system of administration, and to issue such instructions for the further guidance of your conduct as circumstances may appear to require. In the mean time, I am directed to take this opportunity of signifying to you, that the Governor-General in Council, on a review of the reports of your negotiations with the Vizier on that subject, entirely concurs in the opinion already recorded by the Vice-President in Council, of the zeal and ability which you displayed in the course of your long and arduous discussions with his Excellency, and of the indefatigable exertions which you employed to accomplish the object of the orders of Government of the 28th of December 1810.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
20th March 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 8th May 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. His Excellency the Vizier having recently thought proper, without any previous intimation to me or communication with her Highness the Bhow Begum, to make a new arrangement for the superintendence of the Khoord muhl of Fyzabad, the management of which had hitherto been vested in her Highness, and the maintenance of its establishment provided for by a grant of territory to her Highness, under the guarantee of the British Government; and his Excellency having thought proper to combine with this apparent violation of her Highness the Begum's rights, an act of peculiar injustice and of indelicacy to the British Government, in the dismissal of the eunuch, Tuhseen Alee Khan, from an office which he had filled for more than thirty years with uniform fidelity and zeal, to the entire satisfaction of the parties concerned, and with the marked approbation of our Government, whose protection he has constantly enjoyed; I deemed it to be my positive duty, under the circumstances

above

above stated and at the earnest requisition of the Begum, to remonstrate with his Excellency the Vizier on the impropriety of the measures described, and to recommend the suspension of those measures till a reference could be made on the subject to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council in terms of the Begum's desire.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for his Lordship in Council's consideration, copies and translations of letters which have passed upon this subject between his Excellency the Vizier and myself; and having no reason to expect that the Vizier will readily consent to comply with the Begum's desire, and reinstate Tuhseen Alee Khan in his office, or that her Highness will willingly acquiesce in the new arrangement which has been made, and the future exercise of which must depend on her payment of the stipends collected in the first instance by her officers who have charge of the revenue of the Jaidad, I shall of course be most anxious to receive a communication of the orders of the Government for the guidance of my conduct in the dilemma to be eventually created by the opposition of those high personages to each other.

3. His Lordship in Council will perceive, that my sentiments on the merits of this question are decidedly in favour of the Begum; and I am sorry to have occasion to add, that my opinion of the general conduct of the Vizier towards her Highness and the younger Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, as well as indeed to all the dependants of the British Government residing in this country, is extremely unfavourable to his Excellency, and such as, if concurred in by Government, would seem to me to authorize and require a more decided interposition of its influence for the protection of those individuals, than has ever been hitherto suggested since the conclusion of the treaty of 1801.

4. With a reference to either of the Begums, it is unnecessary in this despatch to offer any additional examples of the Vizier's injustice and inhumanity, which are established on the proceedings of the Government by many of my former reports. With regard to Hoosein Alee Khan, the much injured and indigent son of the late Ameer-ood-Dowlah, Hyder Beg Khan, his Excellency's manifest disregard of the earnest advice of the Government, conveyed in a direct address from the Honourable the Vice-President, General Hewett, to which no answer has hitherto been received, and his recent refusal to acquiesce in a proposal submitted by me for the temporary relief of this person by the sale of his father's houses and gardens in Lucknow, are instances worthy to be noticed of the Vizier's systematic inattention to the counsels of the British Government, on every occasion where inattention or resistance, on his part, can be expected to answer his views of vindictive resentment against those who appeal to our Government from his injustice.

5. A direct address to his Excellency from the Honourable the Vice-President in Council in behalf of the head Moonshee of this Residency, who has long been subjected to extraordinary oppression and violence by the Vizier's Aumils and Zemindars, and in whose favour my best exertions have been used, in pursuance of the orders of the Government, has been treated with equal inattention, and no answer to the Vice-President's letter has been received.

6. But, above all, to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's remonstrance on the important subject of reform, which is dated, and was presented above a year ago, and to my letter on the same subject under date the 15th of January last, his Excellency's total inattention, for a protracted period of time, is a proof of his sullen disregard to the counsels of the British Government, which supersedes any further illustration.

7. The subordinate points of complaint against his Excellency's Government and its officers, with a reference to the protection afforded to Budjha Sing and to other marauders in our dominions, and to acts of oppression against native officers and sepoy of our service, having lands or other possessions in this country, as well as against merchants and traders proceeding with their merchandize by water, who are subjected to the exaction of duties in direct violation of treaty, and in behalf of all whom my applications, frequently unsuccessful, extend to the number of three or four in a week, are by far too numerous and complicated

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

to admit of a detail in this despatch, while many of them are of so serious a nature as, in my judgment, to authorize and require the severe animadversion of the Government, with the view of recalling the Vizier to a due sense of his engagements, and of preserving that just and necessary degree of influence over the affairs and Government of Oude, which it has ever been thought advisable to maintain.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th April 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 30th March 1812.)

A copy of the letter which I received the day before yesterday from her Highness the Begum, and sent immediately to your Excellency for perusal, is now submitted, with the view of soliciting your serious attention to its subject and contents.

Your Excellency cannot but be aware of the propriety, and even the necessity, in virtue of existing engagements, of your consulting the British Government in concerns of the present nature, and of obtaining the concurrence of that Government, before the adoption of measures which may effect in any degree the rights or interests of the Bhow Begum, the Begum Shums-oon-Nissa, or others, whose rights and persons are under the guarantee and protection of the Honourable Company.

Your Excellency's custom heretofore, with a reference to every important concern of your Government and even of your household, has been in strict conformity with this maxim. To impose a salutary restraint upon your sisters, whose conduct had given cause of offence during former Residencies and during mine, was considered by your Excellency as a measure requiring the friendly advice of the British Resident at your court, and the support of his sanction and concurrence to render it completely effectual. Under these circumstances, I leave it to your Excellency to judge with what degree of surprise and concern I have learned, through any other channel than a direct communication from yourself, your intention of operating a complete change in the management of the muhls at Fyzabad, in opposition to the will of her Highness the Begum, to whom a jaidad for the maintenance of those muhls was consigned, at the desire of the late Governor-General, Lord Teignmouth, entirely separate from your Excellency, and under the guarantee of the British Government, like the rest of her Highness's jagier. For this measure, in as far as I am hitherto informed, no reason whatever has been assigned; and her Highness the Begum having complained of it, as well as of some other innovations which are described in her letter to my address, and it being my duty, independently of her Highness's objections, to remonstrate against any change or innovation in the management of those muhls, as originally fixed and adjusted by the advice of the Governor-General, without his Lordship in Council's consent, I therefore submit to your Excellency my serious and earnest advice against the change which is now in contemplation, and against the removal of Tuhseen Alee Khan, than whom your Excellency has not a more faithful servant, from the nuzatut of the muhls of Fyzabad, without the previous consent and advice of the Begum and of the British Government.

The measure against which I remonstrate is, in my opinion, unwise in the extreme, as well as unjust, with a reference to Tuhseen; it will be productive of disturbance and great irregularity in the muhls, and in the end, I am satisfied, will prove injurious to the peace of your Excellency's mind. For these reasons, I recommend that the person recently deputed to superintend those muhls be recalled, and that the former incumbent be maintained, as heretofore, in the charge of that department.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

From Her Highness the Bhow Begum. (Received the 28th March 1812.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

I have received an arzdasht from my son, Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan, stating that he had appointed Mohummud Nuseem Alee Khan, Khaja Serai, to the situation of Nazir of the muhls at Fyzabad, and requesting that I would issue orders to my officers to pay the stipends of the above muhls to that Khaja Serai, and take his receipt for the amount, that it might be distributed as heretofore. I send you a copy of the above arzdasht enclosed in this shookha for your information.

The concerns of the whole of the muhls have ever been under my direction and control, nor can any one else interfere in them. At the period when the Governor-General, Sir John Shore, visited Lucknow, and all other questions between me and my son were discussed, it was finally settled and agreed, that I should have full power and control over all the affairs of the khas muhls, the khoord muhl, and the two muhls of my deceased brothers, the Nabobs Mirza Alee Khan and Salar Jung Behadur; that the stipends of the muhls of my late brothers should be received from the treasury of my son and distributed through the medium of my servants, and that the stipends of the khas muhl and khoord muhl should be paid from my treasury directly to the persons entitled to receive them, and residing at Fyzabad. Accordingly, Mohummud Almass Alee Khan, in obedience to my orders, was used to receive the stipends of the first class from my son's Government, and to pay them to the muhls of my brothers; and Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan being of old the Nazir of the khoord muhl and a faithful slave of the Sircar, I consented, at the request of my son, that the stipends of the khoord muhl, which were payable from my treasury, should be distributed as formerly by Tuhseen, whose receipts should be given to my officers for the amount of them. Now my son, Saadut Alee Khan, without giving me previous notice of his intention or ascribing any fault to Tuhseen Alee Khan, has dismissed him from the office of Nazir, and appointed Nuseem Alee Khan in his room. This proceeding is contrary to established custom, and an infringement of my rights; besides which, the allowance of Bukhshee Begum, who is related to me and has recently come to me from Lucknow, has been stopped: and further, contrary to my wishes, a Khaja Serai, named Ekbal, who is totally unworthy of trust, has been placed over the muhls of my deceased brothers, to distribute the stipends to their families. Since it was determined, in the presence of the Governor-General, that the sole and exclusive control over the concerns of all those muhls should be vested entirely in me, why does my son, contrary to custom and agreement, interfere in these matters, and wantonly harass and distress my nearest and dearest relations?

It is proper that you state these circumstances fully to my son, and tell him that his reputation is concerned in attending to them. Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan has been employed in this office for upwards of forty years, and has discharged the trust with fidelity and zeal, let him therefore be reinstated in the situation of Nazir, to distribute the stipends of the khoord muhl; let the allowances of Bukhshee Begum be paid, and let Khaja Ekbal be dismissed. I shall send a proper Nazir and Mootsuddy of my own to receive the stipends of my brothers deceased from my son's treasury, and distribute the amount amongst the muhls.

If my son listen to your advice it is well; but otherwise, you will not fail to represent the whole of the circumstances, in my name, to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, who will, I trust, be pleased to adjust those matters in a proper and satisfactory manner.

Arzdasht from his Excellency the Vizier to the Begum of Fyzabad.

Enclosure.

I have appointed Mohummud Nuseem Alee Khan to the office of Nazir to the muhls at Fyzabad, and sent him with Toolseyram and Moulchund Mootsuddies. Your Highness will, therefore, be pleased to issue your orders to your officers to pay the stipends to the abovementioned Khaja Serai, and take his receipt for the amount, that he may distribute it as heretofore to the muhls.

True translations:

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.
From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 6th April 1812.)

I have received your letter of the 30th ultimo, with a copy of a letter from the Begum to your address.

What you have stated of the propriety and necessity of my consulting the British Government in affairs of importance is very correct; but, in the conduct of domestic concerns, it is unnecessary to ask the advice of the British Government at all times, and on every point which may occur, and therefore on the present occasion it was by no means necessary to do so.

Regarding your remark of my intention to cause a total change in the management of the muhls at Fyzabad, for whose maintenance a jaidad was consigned to the Bhow Begum, at the desire of the late Governor-General, Sir John Shore, exclusive of my authority and under the guarantee of the British Government, &c.

The state of the case is as follows :

When Sir John Shore was pleased to order it, I allotted a jaidad in jagier to my mother, the Begum of Fyzabad, and to my sister, the Bhabhee Begum; and as her Highness the elder Begum requested to have charge of the jaidad for the stipends of the muhls in question, and promised that she would merely collect the amount and send it to me for distribution, the jaidad was accordingly consigned to her on this particular condition. God be praised that I have not as yet made any changes in that arrangement, nor have I in any manner interfered with it, nor done any thing contrary to custom, by which either of the Begums could have been injured. The recent arrangement for the regular conduct of the muhls, and the appointment of a new Darogha, has been made after much consideration, and not until the ladies of the muhls had been loud in their complaints for four months, and had even come out of their houses, when at length I was induced, by a regard for my own honour and reputation, to adopt the measures which you describe.

But first I directed Tuhseen Alee Khan to represent to the Presence the means of preventing such proceedings in future; and the Khan gave no other advice, than to reprimand the ladies in such a manner as might prevent their doing so again. Consider that those ladies are all my mothers, what punishment, therefore, could I inflict? Should I send guns or battalions against them? And how could I reprimand them in the manner which was suggested by Tuhseen Alee Khan? The circumstances of their complaints must be known to you, who have a news-writer of your own at Fyzabad.

When affairs had come to such a pitch as to implicate my honour, and repeated representations were submitted to me by the ladies of those muhls, soliciting the removal of the Khan, I endeavoured to pacify them for a time; but as they refused to return to their houses till the Khan should be absolutely removed, I was compelled to dismiss him from that office: and in doing so I have not in the least acted contrary to treaty, because, according to the tenor of the treaty, I have full power and authority to act as I please in my household, being the sole heir and guardian of all my female relations.

I wrote to Darab Alee Khan on the subject of paying the amount of the stipends of the muhls to Nuseem Alee Khan, the newly appointed Darogha, and desired him to take that person's receipts, as was the custom, and that he would distribute the amount.

Darab Alee Khan, after representing this circumstance to the Begum, at first replied to the Presence, that agreeably to the orders received, he would pay the amount of the stipend to Nuseem, and take his receipt for the same.

But afterwards he stated to the Darogha, that the Begum had said it was proper, in affairs of such a nature as this, that I should address her Highness directly; and on my doing so, for what reason I know not, she sends no answer to my letter, but misrepresents the circumstances to you.

You state that, at all events, as the Begum has complained of this, and some other innovations which are described in her Highness's letter, &c.

The

The complaints, wishes, and requisitions of the Begum, with regard to the management and distribution of the stipends of the khoord muhl, are totally unnecessary, because, with the exception of the jaidad for the stipends being under her charge, she never had, nor has any thing to do, nor right to interfere in the management of those muhls, nor is it proper for her Highness to make any request on the subject; and as I have done nothing contrary to the treaty, there is no occasion to await the decision of the Governor-General on the question.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

With a reference to the stipends of the muhls of Mirza Alee Khan and Salar Jung, and the allowance of Bukhshee Khanum, respecting all which her Highness has addressed you, the case is this: but a short period of time has elapsed, as you may recollect, since the affairs of the muhls of those personages were finally adjusted, and there is no necessity to recur to them. Bukhshee Khanum got permission from the Presence to go to Fyzabad only for six months, and as it is now upwards of nine months since she departed, her allowances have therefore been stopped; nevertheless, if she will promise to return within the year, at the desire of her Highness the Begum, her allowances shall be ordered to be paid.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 9th April 1812.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter, dated the 6th instant, in answer to mine of the 30th ultimo.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The extreme difference of opinion subsisting between your Excellency and me on most questions affecting the interests of the two Begums, and on many questions having reference to other dependants of the British Government, has long been a subject of concern to me; more particularly as it appears of a nature which neither my repeated respectful remonstrances, nor your Excellency's arguments in reply, can have any effect to reconcile; and therefore it will now, I fear, become my duty to waive the further discussion of those questions with your Excellency, and to submit the whole of our correspondence regarding them to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, for his Lordship in Council's deliberation, and with the view of enabling him to take such measures for their final adjustment as the nature and circumstances of the case may appear to his wisdom to require.

On the present question, however, I shall submit a few observations, in reply to your Excellency's letter, in the hope of their engaging your attention, and thus superseding the necessity for a reference to his Lordship in Council.

And first, I submit to your Excellency, that the superintendence of the muhls of Fyzabad is by no means a trifling concern, but in my mind a most important arrangement; and further, that, in one important point of view, it has ever been of necessity considered as a matter unconnected with the department of your Excellency's household, and excluded entirely from your control.

Her Highness the Begum of Fyzabad and her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa, although your Excellency's mother and sister, and consequently in that point of view to be considered as branches of your household, have uniformly, since your Excellency's accession as well as before it, possessed independent privileges and rights, over which your Excellency's authority has never been asserted nor exercised.

The jagiers in possession of those personages were set apart at the period of your Excellency's accession, through the medium of the Governor-General's personal interference, at the desire of the two Begums, and under the guarantee of the British Government, whose interposition was thus rendered indispensable, and has been constantly applied and referred to, as well by your Excellency as by the Begums, on all occasions of importance; nor has any change nor innovation in that arrangement been ever attempted by your Excellency till the present instance, which is in my opinion improper, as being contrary to established usage,

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

usage, and more particularly so with a reference to the high rank of her Highness the Begum of Fyzabad and the relation in which she stands to your Excellency.

Secondly.—In reply to your remark, that her Highness the elder Begum, in requesting to have charge of the jaidad for the khoord muhl, promised merely to collect the amount and send it to your Excellency for distribution; I submit, that while her Highness's request to Lord Teignmouth in the first instance, not to your Excellency, to have charge of the khoord muhl and its jaidad, appears upon record and is admitted, there is nothing like a promise of the nature stated by your Excellency to be traced in the proceedings of the Governor-General while at Lucknow, or on any subsequent occasion. Nor indeed, to my judgment, does it seem possible that any such promise could be made, because the request of a jaidad with this provision were in reality no more than a request of the *tehsildaree* of the district of Gonda, which, on the part of her Highness, is incredible, and would be disrespectful in the extreme to believe. In addition to which, it is established that not a single rupee of the revenue of the jaidad in question has ever yet been paid by the Begum, or demanded, or received by your Excellency, on any pretext whatever, since the date of your accession to the musnud: and, on the contrary, the stipends of both the Khoord and Khass muhls have been uniformly distributed under her Highness's authority and control; the former through the medium of Tuhseen Alee Khan, whose receipts are in the Begum's possession, and the latter through her own servants at Fyzabad, to the persons entitled to receive them: nay, further, and as an unquestionable proof of the authority possessed, and hitherto exercised, by the Begum, that on an occasion by no means remote the stipends of some members of the khass muhl were stopped by her Highness's orders, and after a long investigation by me, paid, through my intercession with the Begum, at your Excellency's particular desire.

Would your Excellency, in the first place, I will ask, have found it necessary to apply to me on the subject, if such a promise as that described had existed? and, in the second place, while referring repeatedly to me for the payment of the stipends in question, could you have omitted to urge such a promise as an argument against the Begum's proceedings?

In short, to establish the existence of such a promise as that which your Excellency has described on the part of her Highness the Begum, is to establish that her Highness has been hitherto, and is now merely the collector of the revenue of Gonda, and that the revenue of that district has been hitherto, and should now be regularly paid into your Excellency's treasury by her Highness; both which statements are obviously contrary to the truth.

Thirdly. With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that the loud complaints of the Begums induced your dismissal of Tuhseen, I am sorry to have occasion to observe, that the information which I have obtained on this point is directly opposite to your Excellency's statement. Since the death of the late Nawaub, Shoojah-ood-Dowlah, your Excellency's illustrious father, the Khoord muhl, comprizing all the ladies of his household, has been uniformly under the superintendence of Tuhseen, whose conduct in the discharge of this duty has been uniformly faithful and correct, such as to merit the constant approbation of the elder Begum and the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and to call forth the particular commendation of the Governor-General, Lord Teignmouth, on both occasions of his Lordship's visiting Lucknow. With regard to the ladies of the muhl, their repeated and numerous acknowledgments of the good conduct of Tehseen, and of his extraordinary kindness towards them during the whole of the period in question, a period of thirty-eight years, are sufficient to mark their approbation; and of those acknowledgments a number are now in my possession, under their seals.

The causes of their present apparent discontent, and of the clamour to which your Excellency has alluded, if my information be correct, are your Excellency's known displeasure with Tuhseen, of which the ladies have long been aware, and your recent deputation of Mirza Shoojaut Alee Khan to Fyzabad, for the express purpose, as many do not hesitate to affirm, of exciting complaints against the Nazir. But whatever may be the nature of those complaints, it was surely no
more

more than justice to expect that some inquiry should have previously taken place, that some specific fault, or neglect, should first have been alleged and established, before so old and so faithful a servant as Tuhseen, whose fidelity and attachment to both Governments, and whose zealous and upright discharge of the duties of this office, for a period of nearly forty years, have so long been known and acknowledged, was dismissed from his station with disgrace.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Your Excellency's sisters had been frequently clamorous before, and under circumstances similar to the present, referred by your Excellency to me; yet those circumstances were not thought sufficient to operate the dismissal of Tehseen, nor to sanction any serious charge against him.

Fourthly. In reply to your Excellency's observation, that those ladies are your mothers, and therefore not to be treated with any rigour, I submit, that no such measures of rigour as your Excellency has been pleased to describe, nor indeed any rigour whatever, could have been required on the present occasion. Such measures as were wisely adopted with a reference to your Excellency's sisters on the occasion of their coming out of their houses into the streets, during the Residency of the late Colonel Collins, and on a still more recent occasion of one of those ladies suddenly and improperly quitting Fyzabad, and residing, unnoticed by your Excellency, for a considerable time at Ishmael Gunge, would have been amply, nay, more than sufficient to appease any clamours in the Khoord muhl, and if such measures as those could have failed, my advice and assistance in support of them, which your Excellency solicited and applied with success on a former similar occasion, were alike at your command on the present, and could not but be attended with success.

Fifthly. To your Excellency's application of the terms of the treaty of 1798, as a vindication of every act and measure, having reference to the management of your household, I reply with submission, but with confidence, in the terms of my former remark, that the concerns of the Begum of Fyzabad, and the management of her jagier and jaidad, are expressly excluded, and necessarily to be considered as distinct, from the affairs of your Excellency's household; and, independently of this remark, that your Excellency's power and control over any branch of your household, under the terms of the treaty of 1798, cannot be more absolute in their nature than your obligation under that treaty itself, and the treaty of 1801, as well as the subsequent arrangement with Lord Wellesley, to consult with the British Government and to be guided by its counsels in every important concern of your administration, such as unquestionably, to my judgment, appear a revolution in the management of the khoord muhl, and the dismissal from office with disgrace of Tuhseen Alee Khan, an acknowledged protégé of the British Government for his faithful services to both States.

Having thus submitted a reply to every part of your Excellency's letter which appeared to require my attention, I can only again recommend your compliance with my earnest advice to restore the established order of things at Fyzabad, and to reinstate Tuhseen in his office, the duties of which can never be, in my opinion, so well discharged by the person whom your Excellency has now appointed to that station, nor by any other servant of your Government.

At all events my duty to your Excellency and to my employers has been fulfilled by bringing the question thus seriously under your review.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government

Sir:

With a reference to that portion of the third and fourth paragraphs of my despatch of the 15th instant, which regards the conduct of his Excellency the Vizier to her Highness the Begum Shums-oon-Nissa, I deem it to be my duty to transmit to you, for the further notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in

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in Council, the enclosed translation of a letter which I have recently received from her Highness, and a copy of a letter addressed by me to the Vizier, to which no satisfactory answer has been received.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th April 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Begum.

From Shums-oon Nissa Begum. (Dated the 31st March 1812.)

I have repeatedly importuned you with representations of my grievances, which still remain unredressed, while the greatest distress and embarrassment pervade the affairs of my jagier. My numerous letters to you on subjects of the most trifling nature, connected with the Khalsa, which you refer to me, evince my regard to your representations and ready compliance with your requests; yet when I, as frequently happens, am compelled to complain to you of the unjustifiable and oppressive proceedings of the Khalsa Zemindars, no steps are taken to afford me the smallest satisfaction or redress. You are apprized of the nature and extent of the criminal conduct of Golab Sing, Zemindar of Darapore in the Elaka of Nawaub Gunge, belonging to my jagier, how he murdered Suda Sheo Sing, Havildar, ruined the weavers, whom he compelled to abandon their houses, cut off the hand of one person and carried away the planks and beams belonging to his house, and set fire to and destroyed several villages. My reiterated applications for redress against these acts of violence have been productive of no effect whatever. I have also frequently requested, that the dispute about the boundary of lands between Sheikh Musaoon and Moizuddeen, who is, at the same time, a Zemindar of mine and a Malgoozar of the Khalsa, might be adjusted; but the transfer of the Elaka of the latter to the former, serving only to exasperate the parties, is all the notice which my request on this subject has obtained. Gunga Pasee, inhabitant of my jagier, was taken into custody, and afterwards released. When this person was at first thrown into prison, I wrote to you, requesting that on his being liberated he might be sent to me, or delivered over to the Aumil of my Jagier; but, instead of a compliance with this wish, the pasee was given up to Kader Hoosein, Aumil of Sedhour, who has induced him to settle in the district under the latter, the consequence of which is, that the former entering the jagier, has demanded of the Zemindar of Yakoot Gunge the sum of two hundred and fifty rupees, the amount, he asserts, which it cost him to obtain his liberty, and threatens that if measures be not taken to satisfy this demand, he will effect the ruin of those persons. I leave you to judge how, under these circumstances, the affairs of the jagier can prosper. The fact is, that they daily grow worse and worse. What redress has been obtained against the encroachments and oppressions practised by Bence Pershaud, Durogha of the customs in the bazar belonging to me? All the people of it have been seized and carried elsewhere, and it is now, to all intents and purposes, destroyed and deserted. I have from time to time given you intelligence of these proceedings, but my representations have been disregarded, and the object of them unredressed. Certain allowances formerly made to me for candles and lamps, for bearers attached to the palkee-khana for grass and grain for the garden, bullocks, and eunuchs' house, for medicine, for repairs of buildings, and for carpets and floor-cloths, have been discontinued, and are not yet restored; but notwithstanding the scantiness of my income, I have submitted to all those deductions. The seeds of the decline of my jagier have been now for some time sown, and any neglect or delay on your part to apply a remedy for the evil will prove the entire ruin of the jagier, and ultimately the destruction of me. I mention these matters, however, not with the intention of giving you further trouble for the adjustment of my affairs, nor in the hope of their adjustment through your means; I design merely to apprise you, that it is at length become utterly impossible for me to live in this city under my present afflictions, with the daily prospect of fresh injuries, and being certain that, as long as I stay here, I shall obtain no redress, though I be sensible that you feel for my situation, and have used your best exertions for my relief, I am satisfied that it can be no longer necessary nor proper for me to continue in this city.

The

The revenue of my jagier and of my bazar, together with the allowance for my table, may doubtless, through your good offices, be sent to me in whatever city I may reside; I therefore solemnly and earnestly request that you no longer resist my resolution to depart, but facilitate it by every means in your power. Should you evade this requisition, yielding to my urgent necessities, I shall quit the city at once without any further communications to you; for I will, on no account, consent to remain any longer under the pressure of the grievances which I feel.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st April 1812.)

I have already, at various times, both spoken and written to your Excellency on a number of points regarding her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa, and I have even explained to your Excellency the nature of my instructions from Government on the subject of her Highness's concerns.

Your Excellency, notwithstanding my exhortations, having hitherto neglected the adoption of any measure in the least calculated to sooth or conciliate her Highness, and her Highness, in the extremity to which this neglect has reduced her, having addressed another and a still stronger letter to me, on the subject of her numerous grievances, I transmit for your Excellency's information a copy of the letter which I have received.

My opinion and advice on the general subject of her Highness and the affairs of her jagier, as submitted on a recent occasion, must be fresh in your Excellency's memory. The best consequence must have resulted from your Excellency's adoption of that advice when it was given; and even now, if it be followed, all may be well. But if the aggravated state of her Highness's feelings should, as a last resource, impel her to leave the city, and your Excellency should seek my advice or assistance on such a critical occasion as that, you will then, I trust, be pleased to recollect, that I suggested the means of avoiding it and that your Excellency disregarded my suggestion.

Concerning the seizure of Peera (who is charged with murder), so often mentioned to me by your Excellency, I renewed my applications to her Highness, who informs me that she has written in strong terms to the Aumil of the jagier on that point. I have every reason to rely on her Highness's performance of her promise, and her causing the accused to be apprehended and delivering him over to me.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my dispatch under date the 15th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the further notice of the Government, the enclosed translation of a letter more recently received from the Vizier and a copy of my reply to that letter.

2. In the concluding paragraphs of both these documents, the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will be pleased to observe, that a prospect of an amicable adjustment of the dispute between his Excellency the Vizier and his mother, regarding the superintendence of the khoord muhl of Fyzabad, has been afforded by his Excellency's conditional promise of reinstating Tulseen Alee Khan in the office from which he was unjustly removed.

3. Yet still there is reason to apprehend that his Excellency will find some pretext for evading the promise that he has made, through the intrigues of his brother, Mirza Shoojaut Alee Khan and others deputed to Fyzabad, for the purpose

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purpose of exciting clamours and groundless complaints in the muhl against the conduct of Tuhseen and his agents; and in the contemplation of this event, as well as with a reference to the general question of innovations by his Excellency the Vizier in arrangements which have obtained the sanction of the British Government, without its concurrence or advice, I shall still be desirous of a communication of the sentiments and commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, on the subject of that portion of my despatch of the 15th instant which regards the superintendence of the khoord muhl.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
24th April 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 15th April 1812.)

I have perused your letter of the 9th, in reply to mine of the 6th instant, (22d Rubbee-ool-awul.)

You observe that the difference of opinion subsisting between us "on most questions affecting the interests of the two Begums, and in many questions, having reference to other dependants of the British Government, has long been a subject of concern to you," &c. &c. (to the end of the paragraph.)

In the course of the disputes which may arise between the Begum and me, your duty is to transmit to the Begum such statements as I may have to make to her and to communicate to me her sentiments in return, and after receiving my subsequent observations on the matter in question, to reflect on the whole with attention, and on whichever side the right may be, to reconcile the other party to it, but not, on any occasion, to argue with the Presence on the part, or in behalf, of the Begum: and as you are the channel of friendship between the British Government and me, you are at liberty, if you judge it advisable and proper, to transmit to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council copies of the whole of the letters which have passed between us on the subject.

You next observe, that the superintendence of the muhls at Fyzabad is by no means a trifling concern, but in your mind a most important arrangement: and farther, that in one important point of view it has ever been of necessity considered as a matter unconnected with the department of my household, and excluded from my control.

To the arrangement effected under the guarantee of the British Government I have never objected, nor do I now object. From that Government I have always hoped for, and do now expect, the daily increase of my dignity, authority, control, and power, instead of their decline and diminution. Should my power, control, and hereditary rights, with a reference to the Begums, suffer any injury or diminution (which God forbid), I shall communicate through you to the Right Honourable the Governor-General the steps which, in such a case, I may deem it advisable to take for my own sake. But the discussion of such subjects as this is extremely unpleasant to me. In questions regarding the jagiers settled on the Begums, where any evil may exist, or in any instance of palpable injustice towards them on my part, the guarantee of the British Government is undoubtedly binding and specific; but it cannot circumscribe or render nugatory my hereditary rights and authority over my own household, no more than it can annul that affinity by which I stand in the relation of son to one of the Begums, and of brother towards the other, neither of which relations have I acted contrary to, in any manner whatever.

You further state, that "while her Highness's request to Lord Teignmouth in the first instance, not to me, to have charge of the khoord muhl and its jaidad, appear upon record and is admitted, there is nothing like a promise of the nature stated by me to be traced in the proceedings of the Governor-General while at Lucknow, or on any other subsequent occasion," &c. &c. (to the end of the paragraph.)

However true it may be, that her Highness made a request of the jaidad from Lord Teignmouth, for the use of the ladies of the khoord muhl, still

as Mohummud Tuhseen is my slave, and as her Highness, about the period of the dethronement of Vizier Alee, was in a high degree angry and dissatisfied with him, of which you are aware, and Tuhseen himself must have a full recollection, it follows that her Highness's giving the pay of the ladies of the muhl to him, on his receipt, was the same as sending the revenue of the jaidad to me. But, with regard to the increase or diminution of the money disbursed, it never was, nor is it included in the authority exercised by her Highness over the khoord muhl. It is true that the jaidad and the collection of it are vested in her Highness, and to her also undoubtedly belongs the distribution of the stipends of the khass muhl; but the mode of distribution of the allowance for the khoord muhl depends on me, and her Highness has nothing to do with it. I have at present no recollection relative to the payment of any portion of the stipends of the khass muhl through you. Be that as it may, the amount in cash of the stipends of the khoord muhl has merely been furnished by her Highness, and the distribution of it, and whatever else is connected with it, has always been subject to my control, and on this point not a word of difference has ever passed between her Highness and me. If you contend that the ladies of the muhl have been subjected to the authority of her Highness, God only knows what disturbance might be created by such intelligence reaching the ladies of the muhl, and by what means they could be pacified. The degree of authority which I possess over even her Highness the Begum's concerns will be demonstrated by what follows.

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Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

The Most Noble Marquess Wellesley, in the paper of agreement settled between his Lordship and me, on the subject of establishing courts of justice, declared that it was highly proper that the Adawlut should extend to Fyzabad, for the determination of disputes within the jagier of her Highness the Begum, and that it should be placed under my control; and also that it was necessary that her Highness's officers should conform to my orders, and that the British Government would afford every assistance in promoting the administration of justice and supporting the authority of those courts. Further, when her Highness the younger Begum designed to leave Lucknow, the Right Honourable the Governor-General expressly stated to her Highness that I was her heir and her guardian, and that it would be improper for her to depart without obtaining my permission and concurrence. Thus my hereditary rights over those ladies appear to be clear and obvious.

It is true that you are frequently the channel of communication between me and her Highness the Begum, but there are also various subjects on which letters have passed between us without any reference to you.

You observe, with a reference to my remark that "the loud complaints of the Begums induced my mission of Tuhseen, &c. &c." (to the end.)

The real matter of fact is this: I never, directly or indirectly, signified to the ladies of the muhl that they should conduct themselves so as that it might appear that they were dissatisfied with Tuhseen Alee Khan. Their own letter, under their seals, is forthcoming, and will fully prove their displeasure against Tuhseen. It is no affair of mine. In their letter they expressly state their refusal to submit to the superintendence of Tuhseen or his people, and declare their willingness to be superintended by Hoshmund Alee Khan and his people: they even go so far as to desire that the Akhbar Nuvees of the former be displaced. As to the report of my displeasure with Tuhseen, and of its having reached the Begums, as mentioned by you, I am not aware of any expression of displeasure made use of by me, the intelligence of which could have reached the ladies. Tuhseen has been ill, and I have neglected none of the observances of condolence on the occasion, inquiring after the state of his health and urgent for medical attendance. But the truth is, that after the removal of Behrooz, in whose place I had ordered Tuhseen to appoint Jowahir, and before Jowahir had taken charge, the ladies of the muhl, quitting their residence, exposed themselves abroad and committed disturbance. It was after the date of this occurrence that Mirza Shoojaut Alee Khan went to Fyzabad to see his mother. You must know the date of his departure: the Akhbar Nuvees, whom you employ at Fyzabad can inform you of it. Hence it follows, that the surmises of people relating to this person's journey, are wholly void of truth.

On

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Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

On the subject of your observation, "In reply to my remark that those ladies " are my mothers, and therefore not to be treated with any rigour, &c. &c." (to the end.)

The ladies of the muhl absolutely quitted their houses, and were preparing to proceed to Golaubbaree and thence to Lucknow. The occurrence of an event of this nature, big with dishonour, and aggravated by their coming to Lucknow, had I winked at it, would have led to the same conduct on the part of those ladies as that of my sister to whom you allude.

Consider this, and say what could then be done? My sisters, on the former occasion, made use of the worst language towards me, and of imprecations indecorous and unbecoming. Their bad conduct gave me infinite pain, and compelled me to quit my usual place of residence and to retire to a distance. You heard with your own ears all that passed, yet no effectual measure was suggested on that occasion.

You observe that my " application of the terms of the treaty of 1798, as a " vindication of every act and measure," &c. &c. (to the end.)

The fact is this: The affairs of my household are distinct from the duties and obligations of my Government, and my right to control the affairs of such relations as my mother and sister, &c. are totally unconnected with, and independent of, my duties and obligations as a prince. The obligation to ask advice can therefore never do away my absolute control and authority over every branch of my household.

You observe, " at all events," &c. (to the end.)

Tuhseen is an old servant, reared up in my family: he is my slave: he still holds employments under me, and possesses a jagier from my bounty. He neither has, nor ever had, any dependence on, nor connection, with her Highness the Begum. I desired him to suggest to me some new and effectual arrangement for the good order of the muhls, and as he failed to do so, I removed him from the superintendence, and appointed another person in his place. Even now, if he will offer any satisfactory suggestion on the subject, and the ladies of the muhls approve of his being set over them, I will reinstate him in the office.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 17th April 1812.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter, dated the 15th instant, in reply to mine of the 9th.

As there does not appear, to my judgment, to be any argument contained in your Excellency's letter, which I have attentively perused, that should alter my opinion already submitted to you, and as the protracted discussion of such questions as this, without the hope of conviction to either party, is at the least as disagreeable to me as it can be to your Excellency, I shall decline replying to most of the remarks which are contained in your letter before me, and shall merely submit to your notice a few observations which the perusal of your letter has suggested to me, as being necessary on the present occasion.

And first, I submit to your Excellency, that in all disputes and discussions between you and her Highness the Begum, which may be referred by either party to the Resident at your Excellency's court, that officer must, in virtue of his office and of the high authority of the British Government which he represents, have an unquestionable right, not only to argue the matter in dispute with either or both of the high personages concerned in it, but to persist in the argument with either in behalf of the other, so long as a hope of conviction may remain, to the end of obtaining justice towards the party whom he considers as aggrieved; and, consequently, that your Excellency's denial of my title to intercede

cede for her Highness the Begum with you is, in my judgment, totally inadmissible. That the failure of my mediation and arguments may authorize, or rather that it must inevitably require, a reference on my part to the Government, and a transmission of the correspondence on the subject, is a deduction sufficiently clear.

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Letter
from Resident
at Lucknow.

Secondly.—With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that "when her Highness the younger Begum announced her intention of quitting Lucknow, &c." I submit that the true state of the case is as follows:

Her Highness's intention, and the causes of it, having first been communicated to me, I represented to your Excellency the propriety of endeavouring to conciliate her mind by offices of kindness and consideration, with the view of inducing her to suspend her design of retiring from your Excellency's capital; and my exhortations on that occasion appearing to have had their due influence over your Excellency, who assured me of your readiness to do every thing in your power, at my suggestion, to satisfy her Highness's mind. I submitted those assurances, with my own implicit reliance on their sincerity, to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, whose letter to her Highness the Begum was, of course, conceived in the terms which existing circumstances suggested for the accomplishment of your Excellency's views. But I am sorry to have occasion to remark, that your Excellency's subsequent conduct to the Begum has by no means corresponded with the assurances which I received from you on that occasion; and, further, that the inference which your Excellency has now been pleased to deduce, with a reference to the two Begums, from the terms of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, is such as could never till this moment have entered into his Lordship's contemplation nor mine, namely, that by an acknowledgment of your Excellency's right of inheritance and guardianship over her Highness, your authority and power to infringe every one of her just rights, to adopt every possible measure of rigour and unkindness towards her, should be established, to the utter exclusion of even a right of mediation or intercession, on the part of the British Government, the true friend and well-wisher, the acknowledged protector and guardian of the rights and interests of both. But to put the question entirely out of doubt, I have, since the date of the letter referred to, been furnished, as your Excellency knows, with more recent instructions from the Government, perfectly consistent with the former, though framed under opposite circumstances, namely, a conviction of your Excellency's continued unkindness to the Begum, and of the impossibility of her residing in your capital without a total sacrifice of her comfort, unless your Excellency's conduct shall be changed.

Thirdly.—With a reference to the concluding remark in your Excellency's letter, which regards the character and conduct of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and announces your favourable disposition towards him, I am happy to be enabled to submit my entire and cordial concurrence in the sentiments which your Excellency has expressed. I am satisfied that your Excellency's returning kindness is the only support required to enable Tuhseen Alee Khan to discharge with fidelity, ability, and zeal, for the future, those duties which he has hitherto performed, to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned, during a period of more than thirty years; and, under this conviction, I propose, with your Excellency's concurrence, to apprize him of your favourable intentions, and desire him to suggest a mode of carrying them into complete effect.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the following letter be written to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to the three preceding despatches, and that the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency the Vizier, alluded to therein, be recorded in succession.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, under dates the 15th, 20th, and 24th ultimo, and to convey to you the following communications and instructions in reply.

2. The systematic opposition of his Excellency the Vizier to every representation made to him on the part of the British Government, has appeared to Government to require that the influence of your representative character should be supported by a letter of remonstrance on the part of the Right Honourable the Governor-General to the address of his Excellency, embracing not merely the primary subjects of your despatches now acknowledged, but generally all depending points of negotiation between the two States. An English copy of that letter is enclosed for your information and guidance. The original will be transmitted to you from the Persian Office as soon as it can be prepared.

3. Among the points above alluded to, the negotiation which took place during the last year, on the subject of a reform of his Excellency's administration, is the most prominent. His Excellency's omitting to return any reply to the Governor-General's letter on that subject, of the 28th of December 1810, although near six months have elapsed since his Lordship's arrival at the Presidency, and his evident resolution to avoid, if possible, a re-agitation of that question, clearly demonstrate his Excellency's fixed disinclination to accede to the wishes and advice of this Government, and to the obligations of treaty in this respect. The former of these omissions has appeared to the Governor-General in Council to demand particular animadversion : you will accordingly observe, that this topic has been noticed in suitable terms in the Governor-General's address to the Vizier, and also that his Lordship has adopted the principles of the instructions conveyed to you in my letter of the 2d of August, and acted upon by your letter to his Excellency the Vizier of the 15th of January; and it is only necessary to desire, that you will pursue the object of those instructions under the support now afforded by the Governor-General's letter.

4. In the same manner, you will renew your representations on the subjects of the Vice-President's addresses to the Vizier of the 29th of March and 12th of July, which are also particularly noticed in the Governor-General's present letter to his Excellency.

5. His Lordship in Council entirely approves the tenor of your representations to the Vizier, respecting his unwarrantable encroachments on the guaranteed rights of her Highness the Bhow Begum. The Governor-General has judged it necessary to enter into some detail of discussion on that subject, in his letter to the Vizier, with a view to demonstrate the injustice of his Excellency's proceedings, and to manifest the determination of this Government to fulfil the obligation of its guarantee on the present and on every future occasion.

6. The tenor of the enclosed document, and your intimate knowledge of every subject to which it relates, precludes the necessity of any other instruction, than to desire that, as opportunity offers and occasions require, you will resume, and endeavour to bring to a satisfactory conclusion, the numerous depending questions between the two Governments, regulating your representations to the Vizier by the spirit of the enclosed document; and the Governor-General in Council is willing to hope that, under the conviction which his Lordship's letter is calculated to bring to the mind of the Vizier, that Government is resolved to urge, with perseverance and solicitude, the just demands which have hitherto been preferred in vain; and under the aid which you may be expected to derive from this direct and visible support on the part of this Government, your efforts will prove successful.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
8th May 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

The

To the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 8th May 1812.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter from
Governor-General.

Among the numerous objects connected with events and transactions in India during the period of my absence from the Presidency, which engaged my attention on my return, none has appeared to me of greater interest and importance than those which have formed the subjects of negotiation between your Excellency and the British Government. I have, therefore, devoted as much time as the general concerns of this Government would admit, to the perusal of all the Resident's reports of his proceedings, and his communications and correspondence with your Excellency, on points which, both before my departure and during my absence, were entrusted to his negotiation. I have perused, also, the various letters addressed to your Excellency, and the orders and instructions occasionally issued to the Resident by his Excellency the Vice-President; and those letters, orders, and instructions, are precisely such as I should myself have deemed it my duty to transmit on the subjects to which they respectively relate.

I naturally expected, as soon after my arrival at the Presidency as might be practicable, to receive from your Excellency a reply to the letter which I had the honour of addressing to you, under date the 28th of December 1810, on the important question of a reform in the administration of your Excellency's Government, your Excellency not having judged it expedient to reply to it in the form of a letter to the address of the Vice-President, under whose superintendence and directions Major Baillie's negotiation on the subject of it were conducted.

Neither has your Excellency thought proper to reply to the letters of the Vice-President of the 29th March and 12th of July; the former urging the interposition of your Excellency's authority for the satisfaction of the just claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan; the latter urging your Excellency, on grounds of incontrovertible justice, to restore to the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan, in the person of his son Hoosein Alee Khan, the provision granted to it, at the instance of Marquis Cornwallis, but discontinued since your Excellency's accession to the masnad.

Neither has your Excellency supplied the defect of replies to any of those addresses by a favourable attention to the urgent representations which they contain.

Near six months have elapsed since my return, during which period I have waited in vain for some communication from your Excellency on the several subjects to which my own letters and those of the Vice-President relate. I am, therefore, under the necessity of troubling your Excellency by a renewal of the correspondence on these important subjects, as well as by adverting to others which have been agitated between your Excellency and the Resident.

The perusal of the correspondence between your Excellency and the Resident, and the latter's reports of his communications with your Excellency on the momentous question of reform, excited equally my astonishment and concern. In urging the adoption of that most necessary reform, I exercised a right derived from the specific provisions of existing engagements; nay, I fulfilled a positive obligation imposed upon this Government by an express article of the treaty of 1801. I discharged a duty imperiously pressed upon me, by painfully witnessing the perpetual demand for the employment of the British troops in suppressing disorders occasioned by the injustice or rapacity of your Excellency's Amils.

A stronger claim on the part of this Government to expect a compliance with its recommendation, a more forcible obligation on the part of your Excellency to afford it, could not possibly exist. But I have had the mortification to find, that although your Excellency fully admitted the right and the duty of this Government to urge the reform of your administration, and the absolute necessity of carrying it into effect, although you concurred in the general principles of the plan submitted to your consideration in my letter of the 28th December 1810, and finally, (after a long and arduous negotiation, in the course of which I could not fail to perceive a manifest disposition to render abortive every project of reform,) acceded to a specific plan of arrangement, your Excellency refused to abide by your own written and positive assent; and this great and beneficial object,

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Letter from
Governor General.

object, pursued with so much solicitude on the part of this Government, with such laborious exertion on the part of the Resident, and with such anxious and apparently successful efforts to remove every objection which had been urged by your Excellency against the system of arrangement recommended to your adoption, yet remains unaccomplished.

I am warranted in ascribing to your Excellency, a decided disinclination to the introduction of any effectual reform, not only by the nature of the discussions between your Excellency and the Resident during the course of the negotiation, but also by the circumstances of your having systematically avoided the renewal of that negotiation, and of your having omitted to reply to my letter of the 28th December 1810, either in an address to the Vice-President during my absence, or to me since my return.

Under any circumstances, however, it is my indispensable duty to exercise the right described to your Excellency by the Resident, in his letter to your address of the 15th January: the right, I mean, of investigating and arbitrating all such claims and demands, on the part of your Excellency and your Aumils, as the British troops may be required to support; and it is my duty to claim your Excellency's concurrence in such an arrangement as shall facilitate and secure the efficient exercise of this right on every occasion. On this subject I have accordingly issued instructions to the Resident, to whose communications I have the honour to refer you for further particulars.

It is further incumbent on me to resume the subjects of those addresses of his Excellency the Vice-President, which have obtained from your Excellency neither reply nor regard.

It may not have occurred to your Excellency, that my temporary absence from the Presidency produced no change in the authority of the Government. The measures of the Vice-President are precisely the same as my own, and equally excite my interest and demand my attention.

The grounds on which his Excellency interposed in favour of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan are incontrovertibly just. As a subject and servant of the British Government, injured by the injustice of your Excellency's servants, he is entitled to expect the support of that Government in obtaining redress. I beg leave, therefore, earnestly to recall your Excellency's attention to the letter addressed to you by the Vice-President on that subject, under date the 29th March of last year, and to express my confident hope that your Excellency will no longer delay to exert your authority for the redress of the wrongs of which Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan has so much reason to complain.

The case of Hoosein Alee Khan demands, in a peculiar degree, the attention of this Government, and claims the consideration of your Excellency, on every principle of justice, honour, and humanity. On this subject I have little to add to the just and forcible observations contained in the Vice-President's letter to your Excellency of the 12th July. I must fully concur in the justice and necessity of the measure therein recommended in favour of Hoosein Alee Khan. It must be evident to your Excellency, that the British Government having, at your express desire, taken an active part in this affair, it is impossible for me to cease from troubling your Excellency on the subject, until either a due proportion of the family property shall have been made over to Hoosein Alee Khan, or the provision originally granted to the family shall have been restored and assigned for the support of that much injured person. The facts stated in the Vice-President's letter, and derived from your Excellency's own representations, precluding all expectations of the former, the adoption of the latter arrangement becomes indispensably just and necessary.

I request your Excellency to re-peruse that letter with attention, and honour me with a reply. I am willing to believe, that when your Excellency shall have duly weighed all the circumstances and considerations therein detailed, that reply cannot but be favourable.

It is with sincere regret that I find myself compelled to notice some other points, on which the most earnest representations have been made to your Excellency

cellency on the part of this Government without success. Of these I shall first advert to the measures lately pursued by your Excellency towards her Highness the Bhow Begum.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter from
Governor-General.

I have received, and perused with great attention, translations of the correspondence which has lately passed between your Excellency and the Resident on this subject. Although I readily admit that every Government which reposes full confidence in the integrity and ability of its representative, is naturally disposed to concur in his representations, and to support his acts and proceedings at the Court to which he is accredited, yet I beg to assure your Excellency, that in considering the merits of the question lately discussed between you and Major Baillie, I have endeavoured entirely to divest my mind of this bias, and that, on a full consideration of the whole correspondence, I cannot but deem the facts and arguments, stated in the Resident's letters to your address of the 9th and 17th of April, to be conclusive and unanswerable.

That they are so, appears to me to be established, by a comparison of the facts of the case and some passages in your Excellency's letters with the terms of the engagement concluded between your Excellency and the Begum, under the guarantee of the British Government, in the month of February 1798.

That engagement contains the following words.

" The Nawaub Vizier, Saadut Alee Khan, being impressed with sentiments of the sincerest respect and regard for her Highness the Bhow Begum, and fully relying on her friendship and assistance in his affairs whenever requisite, promises to shew her every degree of respect and attention, and do every thing to promote her convenience and comfort. As a proof of which, the said Nawaub agrees that the pensions allotted for the Khass and Khoord muhls shall be paid by her Highness, and the muhaul of Gonda be made over to her as a jaidad for that purpose."

Allow me to ask your Excellency, whether the appointment of a person of your own selection to receive the revenue of the jaidad, and distribute it to the ladies of the muhl, in opposition to the declared wish of the Begum, is consistent with the terms of the above quoted engagement? Can it possibly be said, that the pensions of the Khoord muhl are paid by her Highness, when the person who, with her concurrence and under her orders, had received and distributed the revenue of the jaidad for a long term of years, is removed against her consent, and a stranger appointed in his room?

Your Excellency, in one of your letters to the Resident, has stated, with a view to prove your title to make such an appointment, that " with the exception of the jaidad for the stipends being under her charge, she never had, nor has any thing to do, nor right to interfere in the management of those muhls." I leave your Excellency to judge, whether this assertion is compatible with the engagement, which declares that the pensions of the muhls shall be paid by her Highness, and with the fact of her having invariably paid them through the Nazir, Tuhseen Alee Khan, and of her having uniformly exercised a superintendence over the Khoord Muhl through his agency. When it is declared in the engagement, that her Highness shall pay the pensions of the muhls, can your Excellency justly maintain (as you have maintained, in another of your letters to the Resident), that " the mode of the distribution of the allowance for the Khoord muhl depends on your Excellency, and her Highness has nothing to do with it?"

Your Excellency, in reply to the Resident's remarks on your assertion, that her Highness promised that she would merely collect the revenue of the muhaul, and send it to your Excellency for distribution, has only stated, that as Tuhseen Alee Khan is your slave, and as at the period of the dethronement of Vizier Alee her Highness was in a high degree dissatisfied with him, her giving the pay of the ladies of the muhl to him, on his receipt, was the same as sending the revenue of the jaidad to your Excellency.

In reply to this argument it may be observed, in addition to what Major Baillie has stated, that admitting the facts of Tuhseen being your Excellency's slave,

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter from
Governor-General.

and of her Highness's displeasure against him, she voluntarily employed him in the distribution of the pensions; he was consequently her agent, under her authority, and responsible to her, as far as regarded the payment of those pensions.

I have judged it necessary to enter into these details, because the question is connected with an obligation of public faith on the part of the British Government; an obligation to guarantee the fulfilment of the engagement concluded between your Excellency and the Begum; and because your Excellency does not admit the right of this Government to interfere in questions of this nature. This argument, however, I am confident your Excellency will cease to maintain, when you advert to the terms of the engagement by which your Excellency promises to manifest towards her Highness every degree of respect and attention, and to do every thing to promote her convenience and comfort, and by which the British Government is declared to be the guarantee of those promises.

I now fulfil the duties of that guarantee, by expressing to your Excellency my earnest hope and expectation that Tuhseen Alee Khan may be reinstated unconditionally in the charge of the muhl, under the superintendence and control of her Highness the Begum, and that your Excellency, bearing in mind the terms of the engagement, will not think it necessary to interfere in the payment of the pensions of the Khass and Khoord muhls, nor deem it expedient to adopt any measures adverse to her Highness's convenience and comfort.

I am compelled to advert to another subject of a similar nature, on which the most earnest and repeated representations have been conveyed to your Excellency by the Resident, under the express instructions of this Government, but hitherto without effect. I allude to the severe distress and vexation experienced by her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum. I have received copies of the letter which the Resident addressed to your Excellency on that subject, under date the 1st of April, and of the letter from her Highness to the Resident to which it refers, and I concur entirely in the sentiments expressed in the former of those documents.

I deeply lament the failure of every effort of remonstrance, on the part of the Resident, to produce even a mitigation of the distresses to which this lady is subjected, by the rigour of your Excellency's measures. I have to lament, also, this additional instance of the inefficacy of that advice, which it is the duty of the British Government to offer to your Excellency. I have directed the Resident to renew his application on this subject; and I conjure your Excellency, by every consideration connected with your own honour and reputation, and with the calls of justice, compassion, and humanity, to redress the grievances of which the Begum has so much reason to complain.

These are not the only points respecting which I have cause to regret your Excellency's disregard of the representations conveyed to you by the Resident; but it is not necessary to enumerate them in this address. I have to regret generally, the effects of a uniform disposition, on the part of your Excellency, to mark with your displeasure all those who, by the course of former transactions and events, by special engagements, or by services and situation, are entitled to the protection and favour of this Government, and systematically to exhibit to the world the inefficacy of its counsels, on every occasion on which, according to the provisions of subsisting engagements, it is called upon to submit to your Excellency the suggestions of its judgment in points affecting the honour and interests of your Excellency's Government. Nor have its representations been more successful in producing the exertion of your Excellency's authority to restrain or punish your officers and Zemindars, who afford protection and assistance to robbers and marauders, infesting the Company's provinces contiguous to your own, or to withhold them from the exaction of duties on merchandize, the property of British subjects, in direct violation of treaty.

I am persuaded, however, that in all those cases to which I have either specifically or generally referred, your Excellency is guided less by the dictates of your own enlightened judgment than by the false and interested insinuations of evil advisers; for your Excellency's unbiassed discernment and ability would lead you to reflect, that perfect harmony and co-operation, a reciprocity of
friendly

friendly offices, and a community of views and interests, should alone govern the intercourse of States so closely and inseparably connected. The men whose counsels have an opposite tendency are not less the enemies of your Excellency than of the British Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 May 1812.

Letter from
Governor-General.

It is with extreme reluctance and concern that I address your Excellency in the language of complaint and remonstrance; but the duty and the interests committed to my charge have rendered it indispensable. At the same time, soliciting nothing but what justice, your own reputation, the prosperity of your country and the spirit of the subsisting alliance demand, I indulge a hope that I shall not have addressed you in vain.

For further particulars, I refer your Excellency to the communications of Major Baillie.

Believing me, &c.

A true copy:

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 15th May 1812.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
15 May 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. In further continuation of the subject of that portion of my despatch of the 15th ultimo, which regards the dispute between his Excellency the Vizier and her Highness the Bhow Begum, with a reference to the superintendence of the Khoord muhl, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, copies and translations of four letters, which have still more recently passed on this subject between his Excellency the Vizier, and myself.

2. It unfortunately escaped my recollection, in the commencement of the discussion with the Vizier, that I was furnished with an authenticated copy, in English and Persian, of an engagement under his Excellency's seal and the signature of the Governor-General, Lord Teignmouth, the existence of which should have originally prevented the Vizier from giving cause of complaint to the Begum, and the mere transmission of which to his Excellency, without any comment on my part, might have convinced him of the impropriety of his conduct.

3. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will now be pleased to observe, that I have rectified my original omission, and I am persuaded that his Lordship in Council will view with surprize and concern the proceedings of his Excellency the Vizier, in direct violation of an engagement contracted with her Highness the Begum, under the Honourable Company's guarantee.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th May 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received 30th April 1812.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

Nuseem Alee Khan, the newly appointed Darogha of the Khoord muhl, tendered his receipt for the stipends of the ladies to Mohummud Darab Alee Khan, who, in answer, told him that he would not furnish the money, without a receipt under the seal of Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan.

This

Bengal Political
Consultations,
15 May 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

This will give occasion to the ladies of the muhls to create a fresh disturbance; do you, therefore, give directions that the money for the above purpose be issued to the Daroghia. If the money should not be furnished I will supply it myself, with the view of obviating inconvenience to the muhls from delay, as well as to guard against disturbance. It will be proper to reply to this letter with all practicable dispatch.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st May 1812.)

I have been honoured by the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date (17th of Rubbee-oos-sanee). (Recapitulate the contents.)

Having transmitted on the 17th of April (4th Rubbee-oos-sanee) to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, copies and translations of the letters which passed between your Excellency and me on the subject of the Khoord muhl, and having every reason to expect that I shall soon be honoured with a communication of his Lordship's commands in reply, I am necessarily precluded from offering any suggestion on the subject to her Highness the Begum, or writing to her Minister in the terms which your Excellency has prescribed, until I receive the orders of the Government; more particularly after perusing the engagement under your Excellency's seal, and the signature of the Governor-General, Lord Teignmouth, which was granted to her Highness the Begum on the 20th February 1798. A copy of this treaty, in Persian and English, authenticated by the signature of Mr. Edmonstone, was fortunately discovered to-day among the secret records of my office, and an extract from it is here inserted for your information. "As a proof of which, the said Nawaub agrees that the stipends of the Khass and Khoord muhls shall be paid by her Highness the Begum, and the Muhaul of Gonda shall be made over to her as a jaidad for that purpose."

I can see no reason why a delay of ten or twenty days in the payment of the stipends of the muhls should now create a disturbance on the part of those ladies, as it is well known that they have heretofore been frequently three and four months in arrears, without the sound of their voices being heard, unless indeed the intrigues of the new Darogha and other persons, recently deputed to Fyzabad, may have wrought such a change in their conduct, which is certainly by no means impossible.

At all events, if your Excellency do really apprehend any disturbance, and will be pleased to write to the ladies that the subject of the superintendence of the muhls has been referred for the consideration of the British Government, and that an answer to this reference is expected in a few days, I am persuaded that those ladies will remain quiet until the sentiments of the Government shall be made known to them. Should your Excellency not approve of this suggestion, as my whole mind is bent on consulting your Excellency's gratification, I suggest, with this view, another expedient, namely, that your Excellency for the present procure a receipt, as hitherto, under the seal of Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan, and transmit it to her Highness the Begum: in this case, I shall write to her Highness without awaiting the orders of Government, and shall request her to advance the allowances for the ladies; and I have every reason to believe that her Highness will comply with my request.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 2d May 1812.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
15 May 1812.

I have received your letter of the 18th instant (1st May), in reply to mine of the 17th (30th April).

Letter
from the Vizier.

With regard to what you state, that "having transmitted to the Right "Honourable the Governor-General in Council," &c. &c. (to the end of the paragraph); the case is this: you must procure from the Begum, and forward to me, the engagement to which you allude as in her possession, that I may learn from the instrument itself the nature of its contents.

As to the intrigues of the Darogha and others, for what advantage and to what end should such intrigues be employed? I cannot comprehend how they can exist.

In reply to your suggestion of my writing to the ladies that the subject of the superintendence has been referred, &c. &c. (to the end); the fact is, that though you yourself directed Tuhseen Alee Khan to suggest efficient measures for the superintendence of the muhls, he has yet offered no satisfactory communication on that subject. If he offer the necessary satisfaction without delay, so much the better, but otherwise I shall refrain from saying a word to the ladies on the subject, because if I did they would immediately quit the muhls. If her Highness the Begum will not issue the allowance on the receipt of the new Darogha I will grant a receipt to her myself.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 4th May 1812, 21st Rubbee-oos-sanee.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 19th Rubbee-oos-sanee, in answer to mine of the 1st instant (18th Rubbee-oos-sanee).

I shall apply to her Highness the Begum for the original, or a copy of the engagement, though I do not see any necessity for doing so, and in the mean time I transmit, for your Excellency's inspection, a copy from the authenticated copy which is lodged among the records of the Residency, in the hand-writing of Mr. Edmonstone, and of equal validity with the original. If, after perusing this document, your Excellency persist in the opinion with regard to the question at issue which has occasioned so much trouble to us both, I shall have additional cause of concern.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that though I had myself directed Tuhseen to suggest, &c. &c. to the end: I have perused a copy of Tuhseen's arzee to your Excellency, and of the draft of a letter proposed to be written to the ladies of the muhls, and I entirely approve of both; the measures proposed by Tuhseen are in my mind extremely judicious, and I am persuaded that their adoption by your Excellency will be productive of the desired effect, if all other intrigues be put a stop to.

With a reference to your Excellency's offer of a receipt from yourself to her Highness the Begum, it is sufficient for me to observe, in the words of your Excellency's engagement, "that the convenience and comfort of her Highness are the only objects in my view," and consequently, if she agree to your Excellency's proposal, I shall of course be entirely satisfied.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Engagement executed by the Nawaub to the Bhow Begum.

Enclosure.

The Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan entertaining a high respect for the Bhow Begum, and relying upon her friendship and assistance whenever it may be required, promises on his part, and in consideration thereof, a strict attention to the preservation of her honour and dignity, and to contribute in all respects to her comfort, and in proof thereof consents that the allowances of the Khoord

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15 May 1812.

Enclosure.

and Khass muhls shall be paid through her; and that to enable her to discharge them, the Muhaul of Gonda shall for this purpose be appropriated in jagier; and as a further proof of his regard for her, agrees also that as the jagier of Oude is situated near her residence at Fyzabad, it shall be made over to her for her personal accommodation. He also requires, that the Company shall be the guarantee of this engagement, and the signature of the Governor-General in token thereof be put thereto.

Delivered, 20th February 1798.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the following letter be written to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to the foregoing despatch.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 4th instant, enclosing copies of your correspondence with the Vizier, in continuation, on the subject of the superintendence of the Khoord muhl, and noticing your want of recollection of the engagement concluded by the Vizier and the Bhow Begum in February 1798, and guaranteed by the British Government.

2. The Governor-General in Council inferred, from the tenor of your correspondence with the Vizier, of which translations formed enclosures in your despatch of the 15th ultimo, that both you and his Excellency bore in mind the existence of that engagement, since both referred to the Company's guarantee relatively to the Begum; but from a passage in the Vizier's letter to your address, received on the 2d instant, it would appear that he had no recollection of it.

3. You will observe, however, that the Governor-General, in his letter to the Vizier, (an English copy of which was enclosed in my despatch to you of the 8th instant), in discussing the subject in question, has specifically referred to the terms of that engagement, for the purpose of demonstrating the right of the Begum to pay the stipends of the muhls through her own agents, and his Lordship in Council is consequently disposed to question the Vizier's authority to exact any conditions preparatory to the restoration of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the office from which he has been so unwarrantably removed; and you will observe that the Governor-General has accordingly judged it proper to require the unconditional restoration of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the office of Nazir.

5. Although it seems probable, from the tenor of your late communication on this subject, that information of his having been actually reinstated may be received before the letter from the Governor-General to the Vizier, above-mentioned, can be prepared in the Persian language, still his Lordship will not deem it expedient, in that event, to make any alteration in the letter, as the distinct exposition which it contains of the rights of the Begum, under the engagement in question, may be useful on future occasions.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
15th May 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
12 June 1812.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 12th June 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Considering the great importance of the recent discussions between his Excellency the Vizier and myself on the subject of the reform of his administration, I deem

I deem it to be my duty to place on the records of the Government, as well in Persian as in English, the whole of the correspondence which has passed on that subject since my receipt of your official despatch under date the 28th December; and accordingly I have now the honour of transmitting to you the whole of the Persian documents arranged in a regular series, and comprizing thirty-four separate letters or official notes, with their respective enclosures.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st August 1811.

(Signed) J. BAILLIF,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
12 June 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Ordered, That the Persian documents enclosed in the foregoing letter be sent for deposit to the Persian Department, together with a copy of the foregoing letter, for the information of the Persian Secretary.

Note.—The thirty-four Enclosures alluded to in the foregoing letter are the original Persian Correspondence with the Vizier, of which English translations appear in this compilation.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 25th June, 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 June 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. My reiterated applications to the Vizier, in obedience to the commands of the Government, and in compliance with the requisitions of the judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, for the apprehension of marauders who have recently infested that district and found refuge in the reserved territory, have at length produced an effect, which I could not have contemplated as the result of a discussion on any subordinate question between his Excellency and me, namely, a long letter from his Excellency in answer to my letter of the 15th January last, on the important subject of reform.

2. As introductory to the matter of this document, a translation of which is enclosed, I take the liberty of referring the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to my separate despatch of this date, containing copies and translations of letters on the subordinate point, which have passed between his Excellency and me, and in the last of which letters, on the part of his Excellency, it will be seen that he has again reverted to the expedient of drawing a distinction between the civil demands of his Government and offences committed against its peace, and has endeavoured to render a requisition from our Government for the seizure and surrender of felons an instrument of terror and oppression in the hands of his Amil of Pertaubghur, a district notoriously the scene of every species of violence and rapacity for a protracted period of time, supported, I am sorry to add, by the active operations of our troops, during a portion of almost every succeeding year since the date of the Treaty of Cession.

3. That the object of the Vizier on this occasion has been frustrated in a becoming manner, the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will be pleased to observe, by the tenor of my short letter to his Excellency, under date the 6th instant, and by the terms of my instructions of the same date to the commanding officer at Pertaubghur, which form numbers of my separate despatch; and my reply to his Excellency's letter on the more important subject of reform, a copy of which is enclosed, will, I doubt not, serve to evince to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that the Vizier has gained no ground in the discussion of this question by his recent characteristic evasion.

4. I am sorry to have occasion to report to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, that his Excellency seems still determined to maintain his new arrangement for the superintendence of the Khoord muhl, in opposition to the will of her Highness the Begum, and in direct violation of his engagement,
which

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which he can now no longer disavow, a copy of it having been furnished for his perusal.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th May 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (20th Rubbee-oos-sanee 1227, 3d May 1812.)

I have received your letter of the 11th instant (24th ultimo), in answer to my shookha dated 10th (23d ultimo.)

You have stated, that "the promulgation on your part of any such report as I described, even were the fact as stated, is impossible, and that in reality the statement of the fact, that the British troops are never to be employed is erroneous," &c. &c.

The fact is, that the matter is public, whatever may be the means of its having become so; and that it should acquire publicity through me is also impossible, from the obvious loss it would occasion to me and the disorders it would create in my country.

With regard to what you observe, that you "are ready to furnish a force at all times, under the conditions declared in your letter of the 29th Zeehijj 1226 (15th January)," &c. &c. The truth is this: My answer to that letter was drafted long ago, but not having been fair copied was not despatched to you. There are several parts of it, however, which it appears necessary now to reply to, and those I proceed to notice.

In your letter of the 29th of Zeehijj 1226 (15th January), in reply to my shookha of the Sulkh of Zeckad (17th December), which covered a copy of the arzee of Imaum Bukhsh, Aumil of Dureeabad, you stated, "that during the whole cold season of several succeeding years, and particularly during the last year, a considerable detachment of the Honourable Company's troops had been constantly employed in Dureeabad and the adjacent district of Redowlee, in supporting the authority of my Aumils," &c. &c. I have referred to your letters of the 3d and 27th Rubbee-oos-sanee (27th April and 22d May 1811), and of the 10th Jemadee-ool-awul 1226 (3d June 1811), but cannot find in any of them the least mention of operations against the fort of Keampore, belonging to Aman Sing, in the district of Dureeabad. It is, perhaps, in some other of your letters that these circumstances are noticed.

You next observe: "If such be the state of the case, to what cause have we now to ascribe the disaffection and revolt of the landholders, as represented by the Aumil of Dureeabad? If the representation of that Aumil be correct, can we ascribe it to any other cause than the oppression of the landholders, and their despair of obtaining redress from your Excellency's justice?" In truth, had the British detachments in those quarters, when they were employed, as you mention, for the purpose of punishing the refractory and maintaining the tranquillity of the country, acted in the same manner as the troops which were employed on the service of Nandparra and Kewayec, the object I had in view would have been accomplished. I have ever afforded, and do constantly dispense ample justice and protection to my subjects; and injustice, oppression, and rapacity, being at all times hostile to my disposition, could never have been practised towards them, because such conduct, if practised, must have ruined the inhabitants and depopulated my country: whereas, I thank God, that my country, compared with former times, is in a flourishing condition. Travellers passing through it from other quarters bear testimony to its populous, cultivated, and affluent appearance. These accounts have most probably reached you, and you might have witnessed the confirmation of them on our hunting excursion. If, at times, disputes, disturbances, and even murders occur, they must be placed to the account of private enmity among the Zemindars, or to their resistance to authority and detention of the lawful dues of Government, and not to the oppression and exorbitant demands of the Aumils, nor to despair of justice and protection from me. The
Aumils,

Aumils, aware of my disposition, and from the dread of my displeasure, would not presume to make exorbitant demands from the landholders, of which the latter are fully sensible, since they know that, upon the slightest representation of oppression or exorbitant demands by the Aumils, ample redress will be afforded to them : and if, at any time, a difference arise between the landholders and Aumils of a district, the grounds of it are fully investigated by me, and it is adjusted in a proper manner. Thus, in the case of Aman Sing, who, instigated by enmity and oppression, seized on the villages of Veroulee and Ferozepore, belonging to Kullunder Bukhsh ; on the latter complaining to the Presence, the villages were restored to him, from no other motives on my part than those of equity and justice alone ; but he was afterwards murdered, with some others, by his oppressor, Aman Sing. Neither tyranny, oppression, nor exorbitant demands by the Aumils, nor the landholders' despair of justice, can be inferred from the case of Aman Sing, which, on the contrary, fully proves his resistance to the authority of Government, and that the despair of the landholders, if it exist, must proceed from his not being punished.

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Consultations,
25 June 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

You observe, " if the object of my requisition, in the terms of my letter to you, be the seizure and punishment of a murderer, this is not the duty of regular troops, nor is the performance of it practicable by their exertions : the apprehension of criminals and felons is the obvious duty of the police," &c. &c.

The apprehension of Aman Sing was not a matter of much difficulty. Had you, as in the case of my requisition for the aid of your troops to support the Aumil of Akberpore, when you furnished me with a letter at my desire, written a letter in the same way to the commanding-officer of the troops at Secroora, Aman Sing might have been easily seized, as Keampore is only three or four coss from that cantonment. No Resident at my durbar has ever refused me the aid of British troops for the purpose of seizing murderers and robbers. Admitting that the Cutwals and Thanahdars are the proper persons to execute this duty, and that they use their utmost endeavours on such occasions, they must still fail in the object without the assistance of the British troops, since the number of people with the Thannahdar is too small for such a purpose.

You state, that " the Honourable Company's Government having undertaken, by the provisions of the treaty of 1801, to defend my territories against all foreign and domestic enemies, it follows, as a necessary consequence of the above obligation, that the British Government must have a title not only to investigate, but to decide on the merits of all such claims and disputes between my Government and its opponents, as may require for their adjustment the interposition of the British influence or power," &c., &c. It is true, that the treaty in question stipulates the defence of my dominions against all foreign and domestic enemies by the British Government, but it is not mentioned in the treaty that the British Government shall arbitrate my demands, or decline to believe my assertions, and that I and my subjects shall be placed in the situation of plaintiff and defendant.

Again, you observe, " you have been commanded to intimate to me the final resolution of your Government to assert and to exercise this right, on every future occasion of a demand on my part for the aid of the British troops to support the authority of my Aumils, adjusting on such occasions with me the manner of prosecuting an investigation of the justness of the Aumil's demands." Although the friendship subsisting between me and the British Government, and its confidence in me, should be such as to preclude its entertaining a doubt of the truth of my own representations, in applying for the assistance of troops against insurgents and enemies who create commotion and disturb the peace of my country, yet, if an investigation is indeed to be required, if, what I consider impossible, the British Government should insist on ascertaining the truth of the subject in dispute before the assistance be afforded, the mode of investigation is this, that agreeably to the statement of the Aumil, when the nature of the case shall demand it, I shall depute an Ameen to the Elaka, to investigate the state of circumstances and to report to me on the subject. The information so received I shall communicate to you, and then measures must be adopted agreeably to my requisition. Except this, no other mode occurs to me to be practicable ; for as

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25 June 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

to the measure of your deputing Ameens on your own part, I rejected it long ago, when it was first proposed to me, because, if an Ameen were appointed by you, and I and my subjects should be placed in the situation of plaintiff and defendant, what power or authority should I possess? The necessary effect of such a measure would be the diminution of my consequence, and numerous evils besides, which it is improper here to detail. From the kindness of the Governor-General I expect that my power and authority should daily increase; whereas, by this means, it is obvious that my power and authority must be injured.

Here ends my reply to the contents of your letter of the 29th Zeehijj 1226 (15th January), and with a reference to your remark in the letter to which this shookha is an answer, namely, that "if the inadequacy of the Aumil's force be now the only pretext for his delay to apprehend the delinquents," &c. As the smallness of the Aumil's force is an obvious excuse on his part, I desire that you will send me a letter, to the address of the commanding-officer of the troops, that I may forward it to the Aumil.

I consider you to be my friend, and one who sympathizes in all my uneasiness; and, consequently, which God forbid, if you should be indifferent or dilatory in taking measures for the punishment of those who excite insurrection in my country, disturbances of a serious nature must be the consequence. There are at present two or three places in my dominions which in an eminent degree require the presence of the British troops, without whose assistance my affairs cannot be arranged. I desire nothing contrary to justice, nor do I seek assistance with any other view. I have no troops of my own sufficient to quell insurrections; and if I had, I would, as you are my friend, still apply to you for assistance. If you delay to punish the turbulent, you will see how much revenue I shall lose, for when the Zemindars hear of the delay, they will withhold the just dues of the State.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 9th May 1812.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter dated 3d instant, and I have fully understood its contents.

My repeated applications to your Excellency, in obedience to the orders of the Government for the apprehension of a few of our rebellious subjects, who have found refuge in your Excellency's territories, and commit depredations in the district of Elahabad, would seem to have furnished an expedient for the renewal of a discussion, which I considered as at an end, and the revival of which in such a manner, and with such arguments as your Excellency has used, could never have entered into my contemplation.

The seizure of the delinquents in question, which was originally declared to depend on the appearance of a person to point them out, and subsequently stated to require the assistance of a detachment of our troops in support of your Excellency's Aumil, would seem now to be considered as a pretext for annulling the solemn declaration, which I conveyed to your Excellency in the name of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, on the 15th January last, as the ultimatum of the British Government on the important subject of reform.

My letter of the 15th of January, and the final declaration which it contained, were meant merely to explain to your Excellency two distinct propositions, in order to your acquiescence in one of them, which is indispensable, with a reference to the future employment of our troops in support of your Excellency's Aumils, and in the realization of the revenues of your Government; namely, first, that your Excellency should establish a system of administration in your dominions either that recommended by the British government, or some other equally calculated to afford permanent security to us, for the justice of the measures

measures and demands which our power may be required to enforce, or, secondly, as the only alternative, that on every future occasion of a requisition by your Excellency for the employment of the Honourable Company's troops, the British Government should assert and exercise its own essential and unquestionable right to investigate the nature of those demands, and to arbitrate between your Excellency's Aumils and landholders.

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Consultations,
25 June 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To such a letter and declaration as those, the only answer which could be expected by the British Government, or its representative at your Excellency's court, was a ready acknowledgment by your Excellency of the justice of the two propositions which were thus submitted for your choice, and your cheerful acceptance of one of them; or, if the alternative were disagreeable to your mind, a tacit indication of your resolution to refrain, on all future occasions, from requiring the aid of our troops in the collection of the revenues of your country: a species of aid or support which your Excellency must be fully aware that the British Government is no where pledged to afford you.

But, at all events, as my letter to your Excellency, under date the 15th January, conveying the declaration above described, was written under the express and explicit commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, whose high and entire approbation of the tenor of that letter has been subsequently signified to me, so as to render it the indispensable rule of my conduct on all future occasions, it is obvious that I am precluded from entering into any further discussion of the justice of the propositions submitted, and still more so from relinquishing the objects of them in the smallest possible degree. The only duty which remains to me is that of transmitting a translation of your Excellency's letter for his Lordship in Council's consideration; and this I propose doing with the least practicable delay; but, in the mean time, I shall offer to your Excellency a few observations in reply to it; and to these observations, in the genuine spirit of friendship and regard for your Excellency, inspired by a residence of nearly five years at your Court, I most earnestly solicit your attention.

Your Excellency has been pleased to remark, that on a reference to my letters of the 27th April, 22d May and 3d June 1811, you find no mention of operations against the fortress of Keampore, inferring, doubtless, from this circumstance, that the former services of the British troops in Dureeabad left the settlement of that district incomplete: yet the just inference from the fact which your Excellency has stated is manifestly the reverse of that which you have deduced from it, and demonstrates the truth of my observation in my letter of the 15th January, namely, that the fortress of Keampore was not then in existence, and has been subsequently built, or that its possessor was then in obedience, and has since been induced to resist the authority of your Excellency's Aumil; in both which cases, alike, the recent disturbance in Dureeabad must be ascribed to the Aumil's neglect or rapacity.

Your Excellency's second remark, with reference to Nandparra and Kewayee, proves merely that the force of the British arms, if applied, can destroy all the means of resistance on the part of your Excellency's subjects; a fact which has never been denied: but the justice of applying that force to such a purpose, and even the permanent advantages of such measures, are the questions now under discussion; and, with a reference to these, I maintain, that the true principle of attachment to your Excellency's Government will still be wanting in your subjects, the disposition to revolt will remain, nay, that this must be ever the case under the present system of your *administration*.

Your Excellency next observes, that you "have ever afforded, and do constantly dispense, the most ample justice to your subjects," &c. Were the case as your Excellency has stated it, this discussion could never have commenced. Your well-wisher, and the Government which he represents, must ever be gratified and pleased by receiving reports and observing examples of your justice: but it is certainly fair to reply, that a description of your Excellency's justice which flows from your own pen, be the colours of it ever so glowing, cannot be received as an argument in discussions of a nature like this; and that the fertility, produce, and population, admitting them all to be proved,

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

proved, of a country whose revenues are collected at the point of the sword or the bayonet, can never be stated as proofs of the virtuous government of that country. The proofs of a virtuous government, of the justice and moderation of a sovereign, and his impartial administration of the laws, are the willing allegiance of the people, their attachment to the person of their prince and obedience to their immediate rulers, their voluntary payment of the revenues, and the absence of any necessity for the employment of military force.

Such is the well-known condition of the Honourable Company's possessions, and such would soon be the state of the whole of your Excellency's country under the system of administration proposed.

Your Excellency proceeds to remark, that "the apprehension of Aman Sing was not a matter of difficulty," and that "no Resident at your durbar had ever refused you assistance for the purpose of seizing murderers and robbers," &c.

To this I reply: that though the apprehension of criminals be, as formerly stated, the duty of the police, I have never absolutely refused, nor shall I hereafter refuse, to afford the aid of our troops in a case of necessity for that purpose. But the aid of our troops to an Aumil, a Cutwal, or a Thanadar, for the seizure of a murderer or a robber, is one thing, and the support of an Aumil or a farmer in the collection of his just or unjust demands of revenue from the landholders, is another. And as, from the tenor of the Aumil's arzee, conveyed to me by your Excellency's letter of 17th December last, it was evident that his object in the requisition for military aid was not limited to the apprehension of Aman Sing, but embraced the enforcement of his demands against all the landholders in his district, it became my indispensable duty to hesitate about the employment of our troops.

Your Excellency has next argued, or seemed to argue, from the terms of the treaty of 1801, that "as the obligation to defend, &c. is expressly stated, and the right to arbitrate is not declared in that treaty, the British Government must be bound to receive implicitly the assertions of your Excellency's Government and its officers, and to act on them without investigation or inquiry," &c.

To this argument I reply, in the first place, generally, that an obligation to defend or protect, of necessity requires in the contracting party a paramount, and in some respects, a controlling authority over the party to be defended or protected. And, secondly, that defence or protection against "*enemies*," as in the words of the treaty in question, requires that the enmity be proved. Till it be apparent, therefore, or proved to the satisfaction of the British Government, that your Excellency's landholders are indeed the enemies of the State, and withhold its just revenues without any just cause or pretext, without the plea of a farmer's extortion, the British Government can never be bound to punish or coerce those landholders; for, if so, the British Government must be bound to commit oppression and tyranny, which are certainly not comprehended in the letter or spirit of its obligation under the treaty of 1801. The right of investigation must therefore be necessarily implied; it must constitute an essential part of the engagement to defend and protect; and the disbelief, or the hesitation to believe, the assertions of your Excellency's Government, is a necessary and unavoidable consequence of the present system of your administration, under which the simple assertion of an interested Aumil or farmer is the only proof to be obtained, since there is no court of justice, no legal tribunal in your dominions, where disputes between the Aumils and landholders can be heard, where just demands might be distinguished from extortion.

Your Excellency would seem particularly averse to being placed or considered in the light of a plaintiff or defendant, with relation to the subjects of your Government: yet the true and exclusive characteristic of a just and virtuous Government is that which your Excellency would avoid. The just and obvious relation between every Government and its subjects, the reciprocal nature of their rights and obligation to each other, require that both should frequently appear in the character which your Excellency objects to; but in
this

this there is no degradation of the Government, no diminution of its lawful authority or power. Is the power or consequence of the British Government in India diminished by its practice in this respect with a reference to the lowest of its subjects? In every district of our dominions, a court of justice, a legal tribunal, is established, before which the Government appears or may be cited, as a plaintiff or defendant, every day. Its constituted agents are in constant attendance on those courts, for the purpose of asserting its rights and establishing its claims against the landholders and every other description of its subjects, whose reciprocal claims and demands are tried by the same tribunals; and till the justice of a demand on the part of the Government be acknowledged or proved, no military force, no legal means can be employed to coerce the meanest of its subjects.

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Consultations,
25 June 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Your Excellency next proceeds to suppose what you are pleased to term an impossible case, that "the British Government should insist on ascertaining the truth of the subject in dispute before the assistance be afforded;" and for this case you are pleased to suggest a provision, namely, "that agreeably to the statement of the Aumil, you will depute an Ameen to the district," &c. To which I shall first reply, that the orders of my employers, the commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, are express for the appointment of an Ameen, on my own part, to investigate the matter in dispute in concert with your Excellency's officers; and, secondly, that the measure which your Excellency has proposed would, in my mind, prove totally useless. The connivance of your Excellency's Ameen with your Aumil, under the present system of your Government, would be the necessary result of his deputation. The statement of the Aumil would be confirmed in your Excellency's belief by the report of your Ameen, and the double wages of corruption would fall to be paid by the landholders. An Ameen on the part of our Government is therefore indispensable, with a view to its end of impartial justice between your Excellency's farmers and landholders: but that "the necessary effect of such a measure would be the diminution of your Excellency's consequence, and numerous evils besides," I am by no means prepared to admit; for if the employment of the Company's troops to enforce your Excellency's demands be not a diminution of your consequence, it is difficult to conceive how the appointment of a single person as an Ameen, who will merely accompany the troops, should produce the effect which you describe.

To the genuine friendship and kindness of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, from which your Excellency has stated your expectations in the concluding paragraphs of your letter, I ascribe in a similar spirit the wise and virtuous system of Government which his Lordship has recommended to your adoption, as well as the necessary alternative of your adoption of that system in the appointment of Ameens; and I am satisfied, nay, your Excellency must be satisfied, that his Lordship in Council would never have proposed this system, or its alternative, for your choice, if he had not been fully convinced of the perfect practicability of your acquiescence, without injury to your just rights and authority, as well as of the necessity of the measures in question, with a reference to the true interests and reputation of your Excellency's Government and his own. In reply to your Excellency's concluding appeal to my friendship, and your caution against indifference, or delay, in taking measures for the punishment of your subjects, I can only refer you to the assurance which I conveyed at the close of my letter under date the 15th January. The remedy for past, and preventive of future losses, consist in your adoption of the system so earnestly recommended by my employers, and frequently urged to you by me, on the fullest conviction of its advantages, and from the purest motives of friendship.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

A G

Extract

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 June 1812.

*Extract Letter from Mr. Secretary Edmonstone to the Resident at Lucknow,
dated 25th June 1812.*

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. Under the direction of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, I have now the honour to reply to your several despatches of the dates noted in the margin.*

2. His Lordship in Council considers you to have successfully replied to the several points of his Excellency the Vizier's letter, containing his answer to yours of the 15th January, especially to that part of his Excellency's letter in which he disputes the right of the British Government to ascertain, by means which can alone be deemed calculated to produce a satisfactory result, the justice of the cause in which the services of its troops may be required. You will observe, that the Governor-General, in his letter to the Vizier of the 8th ultimo, has asserted that right, and you will, of course, continue to maintain it. On the receipt of his Excellency's reply to that letter, the Governor-General in Council will be enabled to judge what measures it may be advisable to pursue, with a view either to the efficient exercise of the right in question, or to the more fundamental object of a reform in the system of his Excellency's administration.

3. You very properly frustrated the Vizier's attempt to convert the alleged necessity for the employment of the British troops at Pertaubghur, for the apprehension of the robbers infesting the district of Elahabad, into the means of placing those troops at the disposal of the Aumil for the purpose of oppressive coercion; and the guarded instructions which you issued on that occasion to the commanding officer at Pertaubghur are entirely approved.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 July 1812.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 4th July 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 8th ultimo, in reply to my despatch of the 14th of April last, having reference to the proceedings, political and military, which have taken place at this court and in the district of Mohumdie, with regard to the marauder Budjha Sing, and conveying the sentiments and commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council for the guidance of my conduct, in the case of a continued opposition on the part of his Excellency the Vizier to the measures and arrangements suggested for the seizure or destruction of that marauder.

2. By a despatch which I have recently received from the Resident at Delhi, it appears that the employment of a portion of the irregular cavalry, commanded by Captain Skinner, in the pursuit of the rebel Budjha Sing, is for the present totally impracticable; but it is satisfactory, at the same time, to be assured by an official communication from the commanding officer of the troops at Seetapore, that the active and zealous exertions of the detachment employed at Mohumdie have superseded the necessity for the measure, which has thus proved to be impracticable; and it is still more satisfactory to me to be enabled to report to the Government an apparently sincere, and if so, a most salutary change, in the disposition of his Excellency the Vizier, with a reference to our just views,
and

* 12th May, enclosing translations of your correspondence with his Excellency the Vizier, on the subject of the depredations committed in the district of Elahabad by persons finding refuge in the Vizier's contiguous territory.

12th May, enclosing translations of a letter from the Vizier, founded on the correspondence reported on the abovementioned despatch, replying to your letter of 15th January and of your answer.

and to the conduct of his officers and subjects, in regard to the marauder Budjha Sing.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 July 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. At a conference with his Excellency the Vizier on the morning of the 18th instant, encouraged by the liberal and gratifying support which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council has been recently pleased to afford to me, in the terms of your despatch under date the 8th ultimo (the original of the enclosure of which has not yet been received), I took a full and comprehensive review of his Excellency's untoward proceedings and unhappy disregard of my advice, with a reference to a number of questions that were then depending between the two Governments, and had long been the subjects of discussion between his Excellency and me.

4. The result of our conference on that occasion was far more satisfactory, with a reference to every question which it embraced, than the effect of any communication or remonstrance which I had offered to his Excellency the Vizier since Lord Minto's departure from the Presidency, on his Lordship's expedition to Java; and among the salutary effects of my representations on this occasion, I have genuine satisfaction in reporting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the unconditional reappointment of Tuhseu Alee Khan to the office of Nazir of the Khoord muhl, as well as the Vizier's cheerful acquiescence in some important measures recommended by me with a reference to Budjha Sing, and the satisfactory adjustment of a few other subordinate points on which we had long differed in opinion, and regarding which his Excellency's compliance with my suggestions seemed equally just and desirable.

5. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government on the primary subject of his despatch, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have recently received from Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, with copies and translations of a mandate and proclamation, under the seal of his Excellency the Vizier, which have been issued at my suggestion, to the Aumil and population at large of the districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, and copies of which are to be circulated, under my instructions, with his Excellency's concurrence, by the commanding officer at Sectapore.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th June 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident, &c. &c. Lucknow.

Sir:

1. Having received instructions from Lieutenant-General Champagne, commanding the army in the field, to remand into cantonments the whole or such part of Captain Macpherson's detachment, as I may deem proper, and the Lieutenant-General, adverting to the near approach of the rains, having at the same time expressed his hopes that no part of the detachment may be required during this season, I do myself the honour to acquaint you, that being on my own part likewise of opinion Budjha Sing will not be able, if so inclined, to collect a sufficient number of followers during the periodical rains, I have, therefore, in conformity to the Lieutenant-General's instructions, recalled the whole of Captain Macpherson's detachment into cantonments.

2. I take the liberty of suggesting, that a proclamation to the Zemindars, &c. against harbouring or giving countenance to Budjha Sing in future, may possibly be attended with good effect.

I have, &c.

Sectapore,
14th June 1812.

(Signed) J. W. ADAMS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Sectapore.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Adams.

Translation

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 July 1812.

Translation of a Shookha addressed to Hukeem Mehdi Alee Khan, Aumil of Khyrabad and Mohumdie.

The enclosed proclamation, issued by order of the Presence to the Zemindars, &c. in your Elaka, is transmitted to you for the purpose of promulgation. You will further write to your deputy, directing him at all times to seize and despatch to the Presence any person or persons residing in his Elaka, whom the commanding officer of the troops at Sectapore may point out as deserving of this treatment.

Proclamation.

Be it known to the Zemindars, Talookadars, Chowdries, Canoongoes, Ryots, and inhabitants at large of the districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, that if any one shall hereafter admit or afford protection in his village or house to the rebel Budjha Sing, or to any of the adherents or followers of that rebel, or shall, on any account, or in any manner whatever, be aiding or abetting Budjha Sing or his accomplices, or shall purchase or receive in deposit any article of property or effects plundered by those marauders, the person so offending, on proof of such offence, shall be for ever expelled from his zemindary, as well as banished from his country for life, and otherwise severely punished : and whosoever shall apprehend, or cause to be seized, the rebel Budjha Sing alive, or shall bring his head as a proof of his destruction, shall receive, as a reward for this service, a village free from assessment yielding a hundred rupees per annum, to him and his heirs for ever.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the Resident at Lucknow be informed, in reply to the foregoing despatch, of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council's high satisfaction at the communication which it contains, but which does not at present suggest the necessity of any detailed observations or any additional instructions.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Aug. 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 21st August 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 22d ultimo, conveying an extract from the proceedings of the Government in the Judicial Department, under date the 18th ultimo, and the commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council with a reference to those proceedings.

2. In obedience to his Lordship's commands, I have prepared and submitted a translation of the whole of the proceedings in question for the perusal of his Excellency the Vizier, to whom I have addressed a letter in the terms of the accompanying document, the result of which shall be communicated to you hereafter, for his Lordship in Council's information.

3. If the Vizier shall prove disposed to evade the adoption of measures for the apprehension of those leaders of banditti who are known to reside in Baraich, on the ground of a scarcity of troops, or from the still more probable motive of a wish to screen the Zemindars from the consequences of an enquiry into their conduct, which would probably lead to their conviction in the case of the seizure of a few of the principal marauders, I submit, for the consideration of the Government, the expediency of detaching a portion of the Honourable Company's troops from the neighbouring station of Secrora to proceed to Atrawla and Bulrampore, and seize the persons of such marauders as may be found to
reside

reside in those districts, without any reference to the Vizier or to the local authority of the Aumil, as was done on a recent occasion, at the suggestion of the Magistrate of Elahabad, with a reference to the district of Pertaubghur.

Bengal Political
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4. I am induced to offer this suggestion by the constant disavowal, on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, and of his Aumils and landholders, of the residence of banditti in his territory, and by secret information which I possess of the haunts of a few of the marauders, obtained through the medium of an Hirkarah, now in my service, who has long resided in Baraitch.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th August 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 3d August 1812.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have already frequently had the honour of addressing your Excellency on the subject of the robberies and depredations, attended by atrocious murders, committed in the district of Juanpore, Sarun, and Tirhoot, by a banditti known to reside and to find protection in your Excellency's province of Baraitch, and to be supported and encouraged by some of the principal landholders in that province, particularly by Lootf Alee Khan, Jehangeer Khan, and Newul Sing, Zemindars of Atrowla and Bulrampore, who are stated and believed to receive a considerable share of the booty acquired by those marauders.

Your Excellency must be aware, that my repeated and urgent applications on this subject have been hitherto totally unavailing; and consequently it cannot excite your surprize, that the reports and proceedings of the Magistrates of the several districts which have so long been subjected to the depredations of those marauders, should have ultimately engaged the serious attention of the Government, and have appeared to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to require a more direct and a more urgent representation of the state of the case to your Excellency, with a view to the adoption of effectual measures for the prevention of an evil of such magnitude as the frequent incursions of this banditti into the Honourable Company's dominions.

I have accordingly received the commands of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to submit, for your Excellency's perusal, the enclosed extracts from his Lordship in Council's proceedings, in the Judicial department of his administration, by which it will appear to your Excellency to be clearly and satisfactorily proved, that the principal leaders at least, if not the whole of the banditti who attacked the treasure escort in the district of Sarun, and carried off the sum of 4,000 rupees, after murdering, or wounding so as to disable, the whole of the guard who protected it, as well as the leaders of the several gangs who formerly committed depredations in the districts of Juanpore and Tirhoot, are the subjects of your Excellency's Government, residing in the province of Baraitch, protected and encouraged by Lootf Alee Khan, Jehangeer Khan, and Newul Sing, the landholders of Atrowla and Bulrampore.

Under these circumstances, I am commanded by his Lordship in Council to suggest, and indeed to urge in the strongest manner, to your Excellency, the necessity of your adopting immediate and effectual measures for the seizure and surrender of the several leaders of Banditti, whose persons and places of residence are particularly described in the accompanying statement received from the magistrate of Sarun; and further, for the due investigation of the conduct, and eventually the exemplary punishment, of those Zemindars, by whom the marauders in question are stated and believed to be protected.

The necessary measures to be adopted for the accomplishment of those ends are so simple and easy in their execution, that I shall leave them to your Excellency's judgment without any further remark; requesting, however, to be apprized, for his Lordship in Council's information, of the measures which your

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Excellency may adopt; and expressing my readiness to offer my assistance and advice, if your Excellency shall be pleased to require them.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

On the 17th instant, the following reply to the foregoing letter was ordered to be written to the Resident at Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, under date the 5th instant, reporting your proceedings under the instructions of Government, conveyed to you in my despatch of the 22d ultimo, on the subject of the apprehension of certain leaders of banditti and decoits protected in the province of Baraich, and suggesting the expediency of detaching a portion of the Honourable Company's troops from Secora to proceed to Atrowla and Bulrampore, and seize the persons of such marauders as may be found to reside in those districts, without any reference to the Vizier or to the local authority of the Aumil, as was done on a recent occasion, at the suggestion of the Magistrate of Elahabad, in the district of Pertaubghur.

2. The tenor of your letter to his Excellency the Vizier is entirely approved by the Governor-General in Council. With regard to the suggestion above referred to I am directed to state the following observations.

3. That suggestion is expressed in terms which create a doubt in the mind of his Lordship in Council with respect to the exact nature of it, or the measures actually adopted in the district of Pertaubghur, to which you refer, as the measures which you propose to be authorized on the present occasion do not seem to correspond with the description contained in your letter now acknowledged. You propose that the British troops should be authorized to proceed to Atrowla and Bulrampore, and seize the persons of such marauders as may be found to reside in those districts, without reference to the Vizier or to the local authority of the Aumil. In the case to which you refer, however, the orders issued by you to the commanding officer at Pertaubghur, directing, "on receiving information of the place of Kishen Sing's concealment, either from the Magistrate of the district of Elahabad, or from the Vizier's Aumil of Pertaubghur, to take the necessary measures for the apprehension of that marauder," were communicated to the Vizier previously to their being despatched. The mode of proceeding, therefore, adopted on that occasion, cannot be said to have been adopted without any reference to the Vizier. If, however, your proposition is to be understood in a more limited sense, that is to say, if you intended, as in the former case, previously to apprise his Excellency of the nature of the orders to be issued, and obtain his consent, and by the expression "reference to the Vizier or his Aumil" you merely meant that after obtaining his Excellency's general concurrence in the proposed measure, the troops should be at liberty to proceed to the apprehension of the marauders on receiving intelligence of the place of their concealment, without any additional reference or communication to the Vizier or to the Aumil, of course no objection exists to this mode of proceeding, because the only objection would arise from the want of the Vizier's consent, which is not supposed in this case.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
17th August 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EMMERSON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

On a further consideration of the proposition contained in the above letter from the Resident at Lucknow;

Ordered, That the following further instructions be addressed to the Resident.

To

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Aug. 1812.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. A further consideration of the proposition contained in your despatch of the 5th instant, to which I had the honour to reply, under the orders of Government, by my letter of the 17th, has suggested to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council the expediency of endeavouring to obtain the Vizier's consent to a modified employment of the British troops stationed within his dominions, for the apprehension of robbers and criminals who find a refuge and asylum therein from the pursuit of justice.

2. Adverting to the interest which, under the existing system of the Vizier's Government, his Aumils and Zemindars have in conniving at the depredations and protecting the persons of professional robbers, a material advantage would be gained by our possessing the liberty of employing our troops, in certain cases, for the apprehension of such criminals without previous reference to the Vizier or to the officers of the district, in which they may be concealed. The cases in which this employment of our troops is alone contemplated are, when the commanding officer may receive authentic intelligence, that any of the marauders whose seizure is desired are concealed at some place within the distance of a rapid march from the station of the troops, and may have reason to believe that, by the delay of a reference to the Vizier, or of application to the Aumil or Zemindar of the district, or even of the latter's knowledge that such movement is intended, the opportunity of effecting the seizure would be lost, or would be defeated.

3. Strong objections oppose the measure of authorizing such a system of proceeding without the Vizier's consent; for although it is true, that even without such consent that system might be rendered necessary, and might finally be justified by provocations even of a negative kind, such as the refusal or the neglect of the Vizier to afford the assistance which we have a right to require against rebels and plunderers who take shelter in his territories, yet to redress ourselves at our own hands, in the manner above stated, would be a measure of at least modified hostility, and would throw a degree of perplexity upon the nature of our relations with Oude, in regard to the change which such a state of affairs might be supposed to operate upon them, as might create inconvenience and embarrassment of various kinds; and it is, moreover, extremely desirable to avoid any act which would afford to the Vizier even a plausible ground for complaining of a breach of treaty, as the movement of troops, and any operation executed by them without reference to him, for purposes of our own, would probably do.

4. For these reasons, his Lordship in council is not prepared to authorize the employment of our troops in the manner above suggested, without a reference to the Vizier, and without a general, if not a specific consent on his part. It is, therefore, the desire of his Lordship in Council, that you should request, and endeavour to obtain, the Vizier's consent to such orders for the sudden march of detachments, in the cases only of the emergencies described, being issued to the officers in command at the frontier stations within his Excellency's dominions, and that the application for this general sanction to the measure should be made to the Vizier, without specifying any particular case for which that power may be desired, but upon the general and well established ground that such occasions for the immediate employment of troops may, and actually do arise, and that, without the power requested, it must occasionally happen that the object which might otherwise be obtained must be defeated.

5. The Vizier has repeatedly and solemnly declared his solicitude for the seizure of the marauders who infest our territories, by means of the refuge which they find in his own. He cannot, therefore, consistently with these declarations, withhold his consent to the proposed measure, unless he can disprove the exigency on which the application is founded, or unless he maintains the probability of our availing ourselves of the solicited privilege, in a manner to disturb the tranquillity of his country, and to subvert the authority of his government in the districts where that privilege may be exercised: a supposition which, under the specified circumstances

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circumstances and restrictions, he would not be warranted to assume, and which you will, of course, be prepared to combat.

Fort William,
21st August 1812.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Aug. 1812.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th August 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. I solicit the favour of your submitting to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, for his Lordship in Council's commands on the question to which it has reference, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day had the honour of receiving from the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad. A copy of my answer to that letter is also transmitted for information.

2. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch under date the 31st ultimo, being a continuation of your despatch of the 22d ultimo, and containing a further extract from the proceedings of the Government in the Judicial Department, a translation of which, and of your letter conveying it, has been submitted to his Excellency the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th August 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Elahabad.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The secure state of the frontier of this district from incursions by Surnam Sing, Kishen Sing, &c. and his party, and from Bodia and his followers, is, in my opinion, to be ascribed to the vigilant watch which has been kept on their movements, and their consequent inability to plan, with their former ease and success, those sallies which have so long continued to distress the inhabitants.

2. I consider the fortunate result of your application to the Vizier for Colonel Kyan's aid in the apprehension of our fugitives, to have had a most powerful, good effect. as it has really alarmed the rebels for their own personal safety, and shewn them that, even with the decided protection of the Nawaub's officers and Zemindars, they cannot screen themselves from our search, as it manifests to his Excellency's local officers their impotency to expect to grant effectual shelter, and rendering them cautious of the consequences of our apprehending the offenders within their jurisdiction, after the penalties which have been denounced by his Excellency against them, but above all, as it has manifested the willing co-operation of his Excellency.

3. Under these circumstances, I am induced to suggest to you to urge his Excellency to the advancement of one step further towards the complete extirpation of the evil, especially as at this moment such reports and circumstantial accounts reach me of the anxiety and preparations of the fugitives, as leave no doubt in my mind of their intention to take advantage of the first opportunity, or want of vigilance, on the part of the people under my orders, to effect an incursion and plunder.

4. The plan I propose is nothing more than to station an officer's party from Pertaubghur, or elsewhere, in the vicinity of the harbour and abode of the fugitives within his Excellency's territories; and should you be able to prevail in this suggestion, I shall hereafter have the honour to advise you of the most advantageous position for the detachment.

5. You

5. You will readily perceive how much this arrangement may afterwards be improved upon, by an intelligent and active officer being chosen for the duty, who may be aided by an establishment of requisite persons to convey to him information; and although the chief object of his command may be considered merely to prevent the establishment of Kishen Sing, &c. and the assembly of his party in the neighbourhood (whence he always issues), his views may also be directed to their seizure.

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Letter
from Magistrate at
Elahabad.

6. It is unnecessary for me I presume to uphold what I have said, by proofs of the fugitives receiving support and protection within his Excellency's territory. On this point I have already assured you; and although the Vizier may hesitate to credit an open disregard of his authority, I entertain no idea of your doubting the fact, or that I possess those proofs which will bear me out in my assertions.

I have, &c.

Zillah Elahabad,
8th August 1812.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

To T. Fortescue, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th instant, suggesting the detachment of a portion of the troops from Pertaubghur to take post and be permanently stationed in the vicinity of the principal haunts of the marauders, who have recently infested the frontier of the district under your jurisdiction.

2. I concur entirely with you in the expedience of the measure which you have proposed, with a view to the effectual protection of the subjects of the British Government from the future incursions of those mauraunders, and eventually to the seizure of their persons, and having little doubt of the ready acquiescence of his Excellency the Vizier in this measure, if proposed to him with the sanction of our Government, I shall submit a copy of your despatch to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, for his Lordship in Council's commands, with the least practicable delay.

3. The previous sanction of the Government seems necessary, to my judgment, as well as proper, not only with the view of conferring additional weight on the representation to be made by me to his Excellency the Vizier, but particularly with reference to an arrangement by which a portion of the military force is to be withdrawn permanently, or for a considerable period of time, from the ordinary place of its cantonment, and fixed in another position.

4. No inconvenience can arise from the delay which this reference will occasion in the execution of the proposed arrangement, because it could scarcely, under any circumstances, (save of great emergency) take place before the breaking up of the rains or the middle of the ensuing month, by which time you will have obtained the most accurate information regarding the fittest position for the detachment, and I shall have had the honour of receiving the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council's commands.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th August 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, transmitting copies of your correspondence with the Magistrate of Elahabad, on the subject of Mr. Fortescue's suggestion, that a small detachment from the troops at Pertaubghur, be stationed in the vicinity of the principal haunts of the marauders who have recently infested the frontier of the district of Elahabad.

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28 Aug. 1812.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

2. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council entirely concurs in your opinion of the expediency of the measure suggested by Mr. Fortescue, and directs me to desire that you will point out to the Vizier the advantages to be expected from that measure, and request his Excellency's sanction to its adoption.

3. It will occur to you, that this arrangement is very similar to that which, by my despatch of the 21st instant, you have been directed to submit for the sanction of his Excellency the Vizier. The latter would include the former, excepting so far as relates to the previous march of a detachment to a position in the vicinity of the haunts of the marauders, for the purpose of being in readiness to effect the seizure of them. Although, therefore, the general permission suggested in my last letter should have been obtained, on your receipt of this, it will still be necessary to obtain the Vizier's specific sanction to the arrangement proposed in the district of Pertaubghur.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
28th August 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Sept. 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th September 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch, under date the 5th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government, the enclosed copies and translations of letters which have more recently passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me on the subject of that despatch.

2. The measures which have been ultimately adopted, at my recommendation, by the Vizier, appear to supersede the suggestion which was submitted in the third paragraph of my former despatch on this subject, and will, I trust, have the desired effect of preventing any marauders from finding refuge hereafter in Baraitch, as well as of conducing to the apprehension of the principal leaders of the gang who have hitherto infested our dominions.

3. If the measures adopted on this occasion be approved, I suggest for the consideration of the Government, that the adoption of similar measures, and the offer of pecuniary rewards for the seizure of the several marauders who have recently infested Elahabad, might perhaps supersede the necessity of the measure proposed by Mr. Fortescue, and referred for the orders of Government in my despatch of the 15th instant.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
26th August 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received 16th August 1812, or 7th Shabaun 1227.)

I have received two letters from you, the first dated 26th Rujub (15th instant), stating that you had received the orders of Government to solicit my adoption of effectual measures for the seizure and punishment of certain decoits and their abettors, with a translation of an extract from the judicial proceedings of the Government, and descriptive rolls of the decoits; and the second, dated the 5th Shabaun (14th instant), with translations of a letter to your address from the Chief Secretary to Government, and of further proceedings, in continuation, on the subject of your former address.

With regard to what you have stated of your "former frequent applications, in compliance with the requisitions of the judges, for the seizure of those offenders,"

"offenders," &c. (to the end); on the 10th Rubbee-ool-awul 1226, or 5th of April last, the copy of an arzee from Balek Ram deceased, late Aumil of Baraitch, with Bekhu, &c. eight sheghalkhors and 3,934 rupees were sent to you. Your subsequent applications for the seizure of such offenders have invariably been complied with, and orders to that effect have been issued by me to Umer Sing, Aumil of Baraitch, &c., copies of whose arzees, in reply, have been regularly forwarded for your information; nay, one or two other offenders, who had been seized by the Aumil, have been sent to you, with such property as was found on them. The Aumil, too, has exerted himself to the full extent of his power for the seizure of all the offenders, and in destroying their ghurries, being aware that the apprehension and punishment of such offenders is greatly wished for by me; but as the seizure and extirpation of this banditti cannot be expected to be produced by the single exertions of the Aumil, who, in consequence of the limited number of his troops, is unable to keep his own Elaka in good order, it appears to me to be advisable that an intelligent English officer, with a detachment of the Company's troops, be employed on this service; and that a confidential servant be appointed by me, to procure the necessary supplies and attend the commanding officer of the detachment, to report to him every particular; and that a shookha be addressed to the Aumil to the following purport:—That an English officer, with a detachment, has been deputed to seize such and such decoits and their accomplices, and send them to the Presence; that the Aumil must assist and obey the commanding officer of the detachment in the performance of this duty; afterwards all such persons as you may point out to be seized, orders for their seizure shall be issued by me.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 18th August 1812.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated 7th Shabaun, in answer to my two letters of the 26th Rujub and 5th Shabaun.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that "several decoits and a large sum of money were seized and recovered by the Aumil of Baraitch," &c. it is true, as your Excellency has stated. But a recurrence to my letter to your Excellency, under date the 24th Suffur or 21st of March in the last year, containing a copy of the Magistrate of Goruckpore's proceedings on that occasion, will serve to evince to your Excellency that the success of my application was ascribable rather to the vigilance and zeal of the Magistrate and his officers, in tracing and following the robbers to their usual haunt and asylum in your Excellency's dominions, where they were seen with the stolen property under the charge of Looft Alee Khan, originally suspected and now believed, or rather proved, to be their abettor, than to any measures adopted by your Excellency's Aumil or subjects, with a view to putting a stop to those depredations. Indeed, there is every reason to believe, that if the Magistrate of Goruckpore and his subordinates had not enabled me to lay before your Excellency the accurate and minute information which I submitted on that occasion, the detection of the robbers and recovery of the money could never have taken place, and the failure of all my subsequent applications for the seizure of other decoits in the same district, affords a sufficient proof of the negligence, at least, of your Excellency's officers, if not of their connivance with the offenders.

In reply to your Excellency's remark of the inadequacy of the force of the Aumil to preserve the peace of his district, far more to seize those decoits, and your suggestion of the employment of a British force in Baraitch, I submit that, as a large detachment of the British troops with a battering train has been very recently employed in the district in question, every fortress and ghurry in which was destroyed, and every powerful landholder disarmed, it seems impossible now to conceive or account for the existence of any place of strength, or even secrecy, in the district, as an asylum for robbers or thieves, save the houses and villages of the landholders who have the power of apprehending those offenders,
and

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11 Sept. 1812.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

and consequently that the employment of regular troops cannot, on any principle, be required, nor be productive of the object in view, but on the contrary, must rather impede it; because, if the troops be openly employed, the Zemindars who protect the marauders must necessarily be apprized of the measure, and will naturally induce and facilitate the escape of those whom it is intended to seize, and whom the troops can never come up with. My advice to your Excellency is, that the measures which were recently adopted, with a view to the seizure of Budjha Sing, be had recourse to in the district of Baraitch; that proclamations and instructions to the landholders and Aumil of the district, in the terms of those adopted in Mohumdie, be issued without delay in Baraitch, and descriptive rolls of the marauders be furnished to the Aumil, Umer Sing, and that penal bonds be required from all the principal landholders, against their harbouring any of the marauders, in terms corresponding with those which were required from the Zemindars of Mohumdie.

The result of these measures, there seems every reason to hope, will be the speedy apprehension and punishment of all the principal offenders, the protection of the Honourable Company's territory and subjects from the depredations of the banditti in question, and the acknowledgment of obligation, on the part of the British Government, to your Excellency, for your ready acquiescence in its views.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 25th August 1812, or 16th Shabaun 1227.)

I have received your letter, dated the 18th, in reply to mine of the 16th instant, on the subject of the inutility of detaching British troops for the apprehension of the marauders called Shégalkhors, and suggesting that a proclamation be issued, and moochulkas be taken from the Zemindars of Baraitch and Athrowla, &c.

Agreeably to your request, a proclamation and orders to take the moochulkas shall be issued to Umer Sing, Aumil.

With this view, I enclose drafts of the proclamation, &c. for your perusal. You will be pleased to insert the amount of the rewards to be offered on the part of your Government, for which blanks have been left in the drafts.

Enclosure.

To Umer Sing, Aumil of Baraitch.

The enclosed draft of a moochulka is transnitted to you, by orders from the Presence, with instructions to take moochulkas, agreeably to the draft, from Lootf Alee Khan and Jehangeer Khan, Zemindars of Athrowla, Newul Sing, Zemindar of Bulrampore, and from every Zemindar and Talookadar within your Elaka, and forward them to the Presence without delay.

Draft of the Moochulka.

I, Zemindar, or Talookadar, of the village of, in the Elaka of, in the district of Baraitch, do hereby agree and give in writing, that if I do hereafter, in any measure, assist, protect, or give asylum in my Elaka, village, or house, to Kullundra decoit, or his followers of the tribe of Shégalkhors, a description of whose persons is annexed, or purchase any stolen property from them, or keep such property in deposit, and this offence shall be proved; I be considered as a criminal to the State, and for ever expelled from my Zemindary and house, and be liable to every other punishment which can be inflicted on me.

In witness whereof, &c.

Draft of Proclamation.

Be it known to the Zemindars, Talookadars, Chowdries, Canoongoes, Ryots, and inhabitants at large, of the district of Bulrampore and Athrowla, &c. and of all

all other Elakas and purgunnahs in Baraitch, That if any one shall hereafter admit or afford protection in his village or house to Kullundra, or to any of the adherents or followers of that decoit, a description of whose person, with descriptions of several of his followers, is annexed, or shall on any account, or in any manner whatever, be aiding or abetting to Kullundra or his accomplices, or shall purchase or receive in deposit any articles of property or effects plundered by those marauders, the person so offending, on proof of such offence, shall be for ever expelled from his Zemindary, as well as banished from his country for life, and otherwise severely punished: and whosoever shall apprehend, or cause to be seized, the said Kullundra alive, or shall bring his head as a proof of his destruction, shall receive, in reward for this service from the Sircar, a village, free from assessment, yielding a hundred rupees per annum to him and his heirs for ever, and further the sum of one thousand Lucknow rupees from the Honourable Company's Government.

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Enclosure
in Vizier's Letter.

A reward of five hundred rupees will be given by the British Government to any person who shall apprehend, or cause to be seized, any of the principal followers of Kullundra, or leaders of gangs of decoits whose persons are described in the margin.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 26th August 1812.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter with its enclosures, all of which I entirely approve. The blanks in your Excellency's proclamation have been filled up according to your desire, and I suggest that the proclamation and instructions to the Aumil be issued without any delay.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 26th ultimo, enclosing copies and translations of letters which had passed between you and his Excellency the Vizier, on the subject of the robbers secreted in the district of Baraitch, in consequence of the communication and instructions conveyed to you in my despatch of the 5th, from which documents it appears that his Excellency had, at your recommendation, adopted, with regard to those robbers, the same measures that he had been persuaded to adopt with regard to Badjha Sing, and which you conceive to supersede the suggestions contained in your former despatch on the same subject, of the 5th ultimo; and if adopted, also, with respect to the marauders who have lately infested the district of Elahabad, and who find refuge in that of Pertaubghur, might equally supersede the necessity of the measure proposed by the Magistrate of the former district, and referred for the orders of Government in your despatch of the 15th ultimo.

2. It is satisfactory to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to learn, that the Vizier has issued the orders and the proclamation which you proposed; and his Lordship in Council concurs entirely in the expediency of issuing the same in the district of Pertaubghur, as you have suggested, with a view to the apprehension of the marauders who have been in the habit of infesting the district of Elahabad; and you will accordingly be pleased to make the necessary application to the Vizier on the subject. His Lordship in Council leaves it to your discretion, to decide whether or not the adoption of these measures shall supersede the proposition of the Magistrate of Elahabad, described in your despatch of the 15th ultimo, and approved by the Governor-General in Council, as signified to you in my reply to that despatch.

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3. It does not, however, appear to his Lordship in Council, that the more general arrangement suggested in the instructions of Government to your address of the 21st ultimo, need be suspended, in consequence of the measures which the Vizier has consented to adopt in the district of Baraich, although you are at liberty to suspend the prescribed proposition, if you should judge it expedient so to do, on grounds which, in that case, you will of course submit to the consideration of Government.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
11th September 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government,

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I am concerned to have occasion to report to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon Nissa, has this day quitted the city of Lucknow, and proceeded to her jagier of Pertaubgunge, at the distance of twelve coss, with the declared intention of remaining there but for a short time, and then proceeding to the Presidency, or to some intermediate station in the Honourable Company's territory, where her residence may hereafter be fixed.

2. The lamentable detail of those unhappy disputes with her brother-in-law, the Vizier, and of her own consequent sufferings and distresses, which have at length impelled her Highness to take this step, in opposition to my earnest remonstrance and advice, needs not to be repeated at present for his Lordship in Council's information.

3. The Vizier sent me a letter to her Highness's address at a late hour of yesterday evening; and as the terms and manner of the letter were conciliatory and kind in the extreme, I accompanied the transmission of it with expressions of advice and entreaty, on my own part, which I trusted would have some effect. Her Highness, after again and again refusing to open or peruse the Vizier's letter, or to receive a communication from him on any subject whatever, at length yielded to my entreaty, received the letter from my messenger, and promised to suspend her journey for a few days at the least, and to communicate her sentiments to me, though not to his Excellency, with a reference to the contents of his letter. To my astonishment and concern, about an hour ago, a message from her Highness, by her Vakeel, informed me of her actual departure towards Pertaubgunge, and of her intention of explaining to me the causes of this movement by letter, immediately on her arrival at that place.

4. His Excellency the Vizier does not appear to be much concerned at her Highness's departure from Lucknow. He must be conscious that his own ungenerous conduct was the only original inducement to this measure, and that a timely change of conduct on his part, in compliance with the earnest and repeated advice of the British Government and its representative, would have sufficed to prevent her Highness from executing this design. As matters stand, he may perhaps consider her departure, after receiving his letter of last night, to form the ground of a solid argument against the truth of all her former complaints, and as a vindication of his own conduct towards her in the opinion of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, which is of course the principal object in his view.

5. The transmission of his Excellency's answer to the Governor-General's letter, which I received on the 26th ultimo, as reported in my despatch of yesterday's date, has been suspended by his Excellency's desire, for the purpose of revisal and reconsideration. I shall forward a copy of it, and a copy of my remarks on the tenor of it, submitted to his Excellency on the 29th ultimo, to the secretary in the Persian Department, for his Lordship in Council's information.

6. With a reference to the ultimate resolution of her Highness the Begum, after spending some time in her jagier, it seems to me to be advisable and conducive to the happiness and peace, not only of her own mind but of her brother's, if

if a cordial reconciliation cannot be effected between them, that her Highness be permitted to reside in some one of the principal cities within the Honourable Company's territory; and I foresee little, if any, difficulty, in inducing the Vizier to consent to this measure, or to the subordinate arrangements connected with it, having a reference to her Highness's maintenance, which is of course a burthen on this Government wherever her Highness may reside.

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Consultations,
11 Sept 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. In the case of the Begum's proceeding towards the Presidency, or of her protracted residence in the jagier, I propose detaching a guard of the Honourable Company's troops to attend and protect her Highness on her journey, or during her stay in the jagier. The propriety, and indeed the necessity of this measure, with a reference to her Highness's rank, as well as to the safety of her person, are apparent, and no objection to this measure can be expected on the part of the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 1st instant, on the subject of her Highness Shums-oon Nissa Begum's retreat to her jagier, and her solicitude to take up her abode within the territories of the Honourable Company.

2. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council deeply laments the failure of all the earnest and repeated endeavours which, aided by direct applications on the part of this Government, you have employed, to produce such an alteration in the conduct of the Vizier towards her, as by removing the distresses to which she has been so long subjected by the injustice and cruelty of his Excellency, would have removed her desire to emigrate.

3. If, as appears to be the case, all hope of a reconciliation between the Vizier and the Begum is extinguished, his Lordship in Council concurs in your suggestion, that she be permitted to reside at some one of the cities within the Honourable Company's territories, and is of opinion that Patna would be the most convenient. Under this arrangement, it will remain to make the necessary arrangements for her subsistence; and his Lordship in Council is disposed to render those arrangements, as far as may be practicable, agreeable to her wishes.

4. In a letter dated the 27th October 1802, your predecessor, the late Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, transmitted an earnest application from the Begum for permission to proceed to Kerbulla, and she at that time proposed that the collections from her jagier should be made by her own servants, subject to the authority and guidance, or in other words, under the guarantee of the British Government, and that after paying such salaries as she should appoint, the balance should be remitted to her monthly, or annually, through the officers of that Government. She proposed, also, that the provisions supplied for her use from the Vizier's kitchen should be commuted for an annual payment in money, and the amount be remitted to her.

5. The whole of the Begum's requests were complied with, as appears by the reply of the 13th November 1802 to the late Resident's letter, above mentioned; but the Begum's relinquishment of her design precluded the agitation of the question with the Nawaub Vizier.

6. The Governor-General in Council would not object to a similar arrangement on the present occasion; but the consent of the Vizier would be necessary, and it is probable that his Excellency would be disinclined to admit the intervention of the proposed guarantee.

7. A preferable arrangement would be, to commute the jagier for a stipend equal to its produce, his Excellency paying the amount regularly into your treasury, and the collector of the station at which the Begum may reside, paying the same to her by fixed instalments from his. To this arrangement, on the other hand,

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11 Sept. 1812.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

hand, the Begum might object; but you may not, perhaps, find it difficult to overcome her objections. You are authorized, however, to adjust the mode of providing for her subsistence either way, and the adjustment of it is accordingly left to your discretion; although you will endeavour, preferably, to carry the second suggested arrangement into effect.

8. I am directed to add, that it is by no means advisable, nor, under the resolution now adopted, can it for any purpose be necessary, that the Begum should proceed, as she appears to have intended, to the Presidency; and, therefore, if she should still entertain that design, you will dissuade her from carrying it into effect.

9. His Lordship in Council entirely approves your having furnished her with an escort of the Honourable Company's troops, to attend and protect her Highness on her journey to, and during her continuance in her jagier, and you are, of course, authorized to furnish her with an escort on her journey to the station at which she is to reside within the British territories.

10. When his Lordship in Council shall be apprized of the result of your proceedings under these instructions, such orders as may be necessary, will be issued to the civil officers at the place of her destined residence.

11. Your despatch of the 31st ultimo, to which the fifth paragraph of your letter now acknowledged refers, has not yet been received.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
11th September 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 Oct. 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d October 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated the 21st and 28th ultimo, and to transmit to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter, on the subject of those despatches, which I have addressed to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. At a personal conference with his Excellency on the morning of the 12th instant, I took pains to convince him of the essential benefits to be derived by both States from the arrangement prescribed by your dispatches, and suggested in my letter to his Excellency, the draft of which I submitted to him on that occasion. The Vizier desired the letter to be sent to him immediately, and promised to pay due attention to its contents, and to the further remarks on the subject of it which I submitted at our conference. My present opinion is, that his Excellency will readily concur in the measure of stationing a portion of our troops on the frontier of the district of Pertaubghur, but that his Excellency will start many objections to the other part of the arrangement proposed, namely, that of a general licence to the commanding-officers of our troops for the seizure of marauders in his dominions, without previous reference on every occasion to himself.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 12th September 1812.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 Oct. 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Some time ago, Mr. Fortescue, the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, with the view of endeavouring to put a stop to the very serious and alarming depredations committed in the district under his charge, by gangs of marauders and banditti finding refuge in the frontier districts of your Excellency's territory, suggested to me an apparently efficient, and in all respects an unobjectionable arrangement, to be carried into effect with your Excellency's knowledge and concurrence, namely, that of stationing a small portion of the British troops in some convenient position on the frontier of the district of Pertaubghur, to watch the motions of the marauders, and to profit by every opportunity of seizing their persons, as well as to deter the surrounding Zemindars from harbouring them or affording them assistance.

Although satisfied, in my own mind, of the wisdom and propriety of this arrangement, and assured of your Excellency's cordial concurrence in the views and motives with which it was proposed, I delayed submitting it to your Excellency till I should refer it for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and obtain a communication of his Lordship's sentiments regarding it.

Having now had the honour of receiving his Lordship in Council's commands on the subject, I offer, with additional confidence, the following respectful suggestions for your Excellency's mature consideration. It is obvious that the prevention of depredations in the Honourable Company's dominions, and occasionally also in your Excellency's, by persons finding refuge in this country, or on the common frontier of the two States, and the seizure and punishment of such offenders, must on general principles form an object of great interest and mutual importance to both States, and that in as far as the subjects of our Government may be supposed to be the principal sufferers by those depredations, and the chief asylum of the marauders to be found within your Excellency's territory, your Excellency must be peculiarly desirous of the accomplishment of the object in view. Now experience has fully convinced us, that your Excellency's repeated and most positive orders to the officers and subjects of your Government for the seizure of the marauders in question, and against their finding an asylum in your territory, are inadequate to the purpose proposed, since the atrocities of the banditti have increased instead of being put a stop to in any degree; and it follows, as a necessary consequence, that some new and more effectual arrangement should be devised, and that your Excellency should cheerfully concur in the execution of that arrangement, if it be unobjectionable on any other grounds. The arrangement proposed by the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, and approved by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, as being in fact the only efficient or beneficial plan to be devised, must, therefore, I am satisfied, receive your Excellency's entire approbation, and your assistance in carrying it into effect.

I therefore propose to your Excellency, that a portion of the Honourable Company's troops, now stationed at Belagath, in your Excellency's district of Pertaubghur, be detached to a convenient station on the frontier of that district, and there cantoned for a season, or permanently, as circumstances may suggest, and that your Excellency's Aumil of Pertaubghur be directed to furnish ground and materials for a small cantonment on that frontier, in a position to be hereafter selected by the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad. An arrangement similar to this, having reference to the marauder, Budjha Sing, had effect, as your Excellency knows, for a considerable period of time, on the frontier of Khyrabad and Mohumdie.

As connected with the above arrangement, and peculiarly conducive to its success, I further propose to your Excellency, under the orders of his Lordship in Council, that the officer in command of the detachment to be posted on the frontier of Pertaubghur, and all English officers commanding military posts in the frontier districts of your Excellency's dominions, be furnished with general instructions, on their receipt of authentic intelligence from their own spies, or from those of the Magistrates of contiguous districts in our territory, that any of the

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2 Oct. 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

notorious marauders whose seizure may be desired, are concealed at a village or place within a short distance from their station, to march immediately and secretly to that place, for the purpose of surprizing and apprehending such marauders, and to be guided in communicating this intention to your Excellency's Aumils and landholders, by the necessity of requiring, and probability of receiving, their assistance in the accomplishment of the object in view. Your Excellency will, of course, be pleased to convey such general orders to your Aumils on the subject of this arrangement, corresponding with the instructions above described, as to your Excellency's wisdom may seem proper. It seems almost superfluous, on my part, to explain to your Excellency the grounds of manifest justice and necessity on which this arrangement has been suggested.

Your Excellency's cordial desire and earnest solicitude for the seizure and punishment of the marauders who infest the Company's territory, by means of the refuge which they find in your dominions, have been repeatedly and solemnly avowed, nay, exemplified on several occasions, by the terms of the orders and proclamations which have been issued to your officers and subjects, at my particular desire. Yet, at the same time, it is sufficiently proved, that neither the hope of reward nor the dread of punishment, as held out in those orders and proclamations, has had the effect of preventing your Excellency's Zemindars in Pertaubghur, and in Mohumdie and Palee, as well as also in the province of Baraitch, from concealing and protecting the marauders, and from apprizing them and facilitating their escape, on every occasion of the employment of British Troops for their seizure; and, consequently, as it must be obvious to your Excellency that the plan which is now proposed is the only efficient plan for effecting the seizure of the marauders, I cannot entertain a doubt of your ready concurrence in this arrangement, and your assistance in giving it effect. The position of the new cantonment on the frontier of Pertaubghur shall hereafter be suggested to your Excellency.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the foregoing letter lie for consideration.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
23 Oct. 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 23d October 1812.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch, under date the 19th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies and translations of two further letters which have passed on that subject between his Excellency the Vizier and me. I take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated the 11th instant, in answer to my despatch of the 26th ultimo, which suggested, for the consideration of the Government, the substitution of another arrangement for that prescribed by your despatches of the 21st and 28th ultimo, and which suggestion has now, to a certain extent, received his Lordship in Council's approbation.

2. Being satisfied, however, in my own mind, after mature deliberation on the circumstances which induced my suggestion in my despatch of the 26th ultimo, and on the former proceedings of this Government, which suggested to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council the necessity of a still more efficient arrangement for the accomplishment of the object in view, as prescribed by your despatches above noticed, that the latter arrangement involved many more solid and more permanent advantages than the former,

while

while they were perfectly consistent with each other, I have deemed it to be my duty, as his Lordship in Council will perceive, not only to propose the arrangement in question to the Vizier, but to use every argument that occurred to me for the removal of his Excellency's objections to a measure which that arrangement involved.

3. The partial success of my endeavours hitherto, and the probability of their total success hereafter, will be made known to his Lordship in Council by a perusal of the documents which are enclosed.

4. I have great satisfaction in reporting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, that four of the principal decoits who were secreted in the district of Baraitch, and for whose apprehension rewards had been offered in behalf of the British Government, in the proclamations issued at my desire, have been seized by the Aumil of Baraitch, in obedience to the orders of the Vizier, and delivered over to me for trial. They shall be despatched to the Zillah court of Sarun without any delay. Lootf Alee Khan, Zemindar of Atrawla, the notorious protector and abettor of those marauders, has also been apprehended at Fyzabad, in compliance with my requisition to her Highness the Bhow Begum, at his Excellency's the Vizier's desire.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 12th Rumzaun 1227,
20th September 1812.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter of the 4th of Rumzaun (12th instant). You state that "some time ago Mr. Fortescue, the judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, with the view of endeavouring to put a stop to the many serious depredations committed in the district under his charge, by gangs of marauders and banditti finding refuge in the frontier districts of my territory," &c. &c. (recapitulate.)

As the extirpation of marauders and banditti from the territories of both States is an object of importance to both, and would afford me infinite pleasure, I do not object to the plan which you propose for a portion of the Honourable Company's troops stationed at Belagath, being detached to the frontier of the district of Pertaubghur, for such a time as may be found necessary, in the same manner as detachments have heretofore, in cases of emergency, been posted at certain places on the frontier of my country, for the execution of services of the nature described; because the troops to be so stationed will not only seize or destroy the marauders and banditti of the Honourable Company's territory, but also those in the territory belonging to me, who constantly harass and distress the subjects of my Government, and the arrangement proposed will thus become of equal advantage to both States. Whenever you inform me of the position chosen for the cantonment, the requisite orders shall be issued to my Aumils.

With regard to your further proposal, that "all the officers commanding at military posts in the frontier districts of my dominions be furnished with general instructions on the receipt of authentic intelligence," &c. (recapitulate) the state of the matter is this: As it was formerly made generally known that the British troops would not be employed against the public debtors or refractory subjects of this State, and consequently many Zemindars in balance to Government withhold the revenue and resist my authority, the employment of the British troops stationed in my country, as now proposed, for apprehending insurgents, under the direction of the Judges, in the frontier districts of the British territories, and at the discretion of the British officers, will create a general belief among the people that I possess no power or authority, even in the execution of such measures as this, and that I have transferred the whole of my authority to the English gentlemen. This belief will tend to multiply disorders and disturbance, and a system of resistance and withholding the revenues

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

revenues will be pursued, to the total disregard of the authority of my Aumils. It is a matter of surprize, that the British troops which, according to treaty, are stationed in my country, for the sole purpose of punishing insurgents and preserving the tranquillity of my dominions, should not be employed for those purposes, but be appointed to seize robbers, marauders, and banditti, who infest the British territory alone, and that all the measures now proposed should have for their object merely the seizure and extirpation of the offenders against that Government, while no measure is proposed for apprehending or punishing those against mine. I beg you to consider, that while the employment of your troops for the settlement of my country, and the punishment of insurgents, defaulters, and public debtors is suspended, and while even the seizure of criminals against my Government, who find refuge in your territory, is delayed, if such measures as those which you propose be adopted for the seizure of offenders against the peace of the British Government, what answer can I give to such a proposal? I am surprised, indeed, beyond measure by this proposal. Friendship and amity demand that the same means which are employed against delinquents in the British territory, be also recurred to in mine.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 25th September 1812,
17th Rumzaun 1227.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter dated the 11th Rumzaun (19th instant), in answer to mine of the 12th instant (4th Rumzaun); and with a view to the execution of the first part of the arrangement proposed, in which your Excellency has been pleased to acquiesce, namely, the detachment of a portion of our troops from Belagath to be stationed in a convenient position on the frontier of Pertaubghur, I have written to the Magistrate of Elahabad, whose answer shall be communicated to your Excellency when I receive it.

With a reference to the second part of the proposed arrangement, namely, that of furnishing general instructions to the commanding officers of our troops at frontier stations, for the seizure of such robbers and criminals as may be concealed in the neighbourhood of their posts, although the doubts and apprehensions which would seem to have arisen in your Excellency's mind be in my judgment totally imaginary, and very easily to be removed, and although I propose to offer some suggestions to your Excellency with this view in the sequel, yet as the proposal was originally offered to you under the orders of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, I shall deem it to be my duty to submit a copy and translation of your Excellency's answer for his Lordship in Council's consideration and further commands, before I renew my request of your Excellency's concurrence in the arrangement.

For the present, I content myself with remarking that the general knowledge to which your Excellency alludes, of a refusal on the part of the British Government to employ its troops in the punishment of rebels and criminals of your Excellency's State, if such be indeed prevalent, is entirely erroneous, and totally inconsistent with the truth. I have already repeatedly assured your Excellency, and do now again, with a view to your confidence, declare, that the suppression, seizure, and punishment of rebels, criminals, and offenders of every description, against your Excellency's person and Government, whether in your own or in the Honourable Company's territory, are objects, for the accomplishment of which the exertions of your well-wisher and of the British troops are, on every occasion of necessity, at your Excellency's perfect devotion, and ready to be zealously employed, as they have been on every former occasion; nay, that the detachment to be now stationed on the frontier of Pertaubghur, as your Excellency has very justly observed, "will not only seize or destroy
" the marauders of the Honourable Company's territory, but also those in your
" Excellency's

"Excellency's dominions, and the arrangement proposed will thus become of equal advantage to both States."

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

It would seem, from the above quotation, that your Excellency is not only fully aware, but perfectly satisfied, of the beneficial effects to be derived from the general arrangement proposed to you; and under this impression, I must confess myself much at a loss to account for the subsequent expressions of doubt and alarm, inconsistent with the foregoing quotation, which would seem to have arisen in your mind, with a reference to one part of the arrangement indispensable to its general success.

The natural and obvious distinction between rebels and felons, the subjects of either State, and the civil debtors of either, cannot, I am certain, have escaped your Excellency's penetration and observance. For the recovery of civil debts or pecuniary demands from the landholders or other defaulters of this description, the employment of a military force is unnecessary, and unknown in the British dominions; and it is the earnest and anxious wish of the British Government, that the adoption of the system of reform proposed to your Excellency, or of any other system to be devised by your Excellency's wisdom with similar views, should quickly and happily lead to a similar result in your dominions, and that the revenues of your Excellency's country should hereafter flow into your treasury, without any necessity, as heretofore, for its collection by military power. But until that happy period shall arrive, I have no hesitation in repeating to your Excellency, what I have submitted on many former occasions, that for the realization and enforcement, if necessary, of every just demand and decree of your Excellency's Government, under the provision and in the manner already so often described, my most zealous exertions, and the active operations of our troops, shall be ever at your Excellency's disposal. With the explanation here submitted, I conceive that every ground of surprize and alarm at the proposal offered for your consideration, should cease in your Excellency's mind.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That a copy of the fourth paragraph of the foregoing letter from the Resident at Lucknow be sent to the Judicial Department, for information, in reply to the references from that department of the 18th July 1812.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, under date the 28th ultimo, enclosing copies and translations of two letters which have passed between you and his Excellency the Vizier, on the subject of the proposed mode of employing detachments of the British troops, stationed in his Excellency's country, for the apprehension of banditti which infest the Honourable Company's territory, and find refuge in the former.

2. The reply which you returned to the Vizier's extraordinary letter of the 20th ultimo is entirely approved by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, but the tenor of some part of his Excellency's observations appears to his Lordship in Council to require more special notice on the part of this Government.

3. The Vizier, in objecting to the employment of our troops for the apprehension of robbers and banditti, who acquire the means of committing depredations and murder within the British territories by the asylum afforded to them in his Excellency's country, entirely loses sight of the positive obligation imposed on his Government, and of his disinclination or inability to fulfil that obligation. The measure in question was proposed solely in consequence of the experienced inefficacy of reiterated applications for the due exertion of his Excellency's authority, in effecting the apprehension or expulsion of the marauders; and the observations contained in my letter of the 8th of May last, demonstrate that, in applying for his Excellency's consent to the arrangement described in my des-

Bengal Political
Consultations,
23 Oct. 1812.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

patch of the 11th ultimo, this Government fell far short of the exercise of its undoubted rights. It is, moreover, a subject of just offence to the British Government, that the Vizier has withheld his consent, not on the ground of a real, or even a professed resolution to supersede the necessity of the proposed arrangement, by the due exertion of his authority over his own officers, but on the plea, or rather the unfounded imputation, of a declared design on our part, to refuse the aid of our troops in the execution of the services prescribed by the stipulations of existing engagements, and of our declining to employ a military force for the coercion of debtors and defaulters, which forms no part of the obligations imposed on the British Government by those engagements.

4. His Lordship in Council now deems it necessary that you should explain to the Vizier the principles described in my letter of the 8th of May last, above referred to, intimating to him, at the same time, in the event of his Excellency's continuing to manifest his aversion to concur in the prosecution of effectual measures for the redress of the grievous evils of which we have so long and so justly complained, that the British Government will be compelled to pursue the steps best calculated for the attainment of that object, without reference to his Excellency's authority. You will also make known to him the surprize and displeasure with which the Governor-General in Council has perused the offensive observations contained in his letter to your address of the 20th ultimo.

5. His Lordship in Council has received with great satisfaction the information communicated in the last paragraph of your despatch, of the seizure of four of the principal decoits who were secreted in the district of Baraich, and of the apprehension of Lootf Alee Khan, the Zemindar of Atrowla, the chief protector and abettor of the marauders.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
23d October 1812.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d July 1813.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir:

* 1. A part of the contents of your letter, under date the 11th ultimo, having been communicated to her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from her Highness in reply, and in which his Lordship in Council will be pleased to observe that it is the wish of her Highness the Begum to proceed in the first instance to Elahabad, with the view of fixing her future residence there, if the climate shall be found to agree with her, and there be no other objection to this measure.

2. As I am not aware of any material objection to a compliance with the wish of the Begum in this respect, I take the liberty of suggesting that the necessary orders on the subject of her Highness's reception in a suitable manner at Elahabad, be issued to the civil officers of that Zillah.

3. I have been induced to postpone the discussion with his Excellency the Vizier, of the several arrangements connected with the Begum's departure, which are treated of in your despatch above noticed, chiefly by a contemplation of the facilities and advantages to be derived in this discussion, from the tenor of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's expected replies to his Excellency's and her Highness's letters, conveyed in my despatches of the 9th and 12th ultimo to the Persian Department, and partly by the visit to this capital of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and its attendant ceremonies, which have necessarily

* This Letter from the Resident at Lucknow, though not recorded on the Bengal proceedings until July 1813, has been placed here in order to avoid the manifest incongruity of giving the answer returned thereto by the Bengal Government before the Letter to which it replied.

sarily had the effect of suspending business for a few days. His Excellency Sir George Nugent arrived at Lucknow on the morning of the 10th instant, and has been received by his Excellency the Vizier with every suitable mark of consideration and respect.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1818.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th October 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum. (Received the 4th October 1812.)

Letter
from the Begum.

Your kind letter, received at the moment of expectation, has added to my comfort.

The perusal of the sentiments which the Right Honourable the Governor-General has expressed, in terms corresponding with the distinguished qualities of his Lordship's mind and with the friendship that subsisted between the late Vizier and the British Government, having reference to my statement of the causes of my disgust with my situation in this country, has had the effect, like the breath of the Messiah, of inspiring new life into my feeble frame. I expect still greater benefits from the friendly exertions to be adopted by you, who know all my rights and wishes, and whose uniformly kind attention to me hitherto might form a model of sincere friendship to the age. How shall I express in writing all my obligations for the interest you have so humanely taken in my concerns? They are beyond the power of the tongue or the pen to convey. Truly the great artizan of nature has nicely suited you with the habit of discovering truth and acquiring a knowledge of the just principles of human conduct, and the preceptor of the universe has taught you how to appreciate what is just and worthy among mankind. Being persuaded that you will uniformly employ all practicable means for the maintenance of my dignity, and to promote my welfare and happiness, I shall, in compliance with your opinion and advice, wait some time longer for the reply of the Right Honourable the Governor-General to my letter, as well as for the purpose of adjusting certain other matters of business, and I trust that, through your kind aid, the interval will be sufficient to produce the accomplishment of all the remaining objects of my anxiety and desire.

As it is my intention that the practice of receiving ready-dressed victuals from the kitchen of the Vizier should be discontinued from the 1st of Shuwaul (8th instant), I request that you will inquire into this matter, and obtain an allowance in cash in lieu of it for me, upon the principle established during the Residency of Colonel Scott, in order that wherever I may happen to reside I may receive this allowance in ready money, through the medium of the British Government. Further, I request you to receive for me the money accruing from my possessions in Delhi since the accession of my brother, Saadut Alee Khan, till the present year, together with an order addressed to the farmers of those possessions for their surrender to my servants without delay. If a delay occur in the settlement of the other points, it will be of no importance, as through the interest you feel for me they may be easily adjusted in my absence.

With regard to what you have written about the remaining objects, although the end in view might be attained by means of your letters, or a confidential agent, yet as your coming out to me yourself will afford relief to the distressed state of my mind, and give opportunities of conveying information which cannot be afforded by letter, you must consider it indispensable to gratify me with a visit to bid me a personal adieu, for I have many subjects to converse with you on that I cannot communicate by letter. I beg of you also to understand, with a reference to the route of my march and ultimate place of my retirement, that it is my intention after leaving the jagier to reside awhile at Elahabad, where the climate and the country are alike pleasant. Should they agree with my health, my object will be attained by fixing my residence there, but otherwise I shall proceed to Patna and fix my abode in that city.

What I formerly wrote to you, of inconvenience sustained by the want of carriage for my baggage, &c., was not intended to give you unnecessary trouble.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1813.

If my own people be unable to procure the necessary carriage for my effects, I shall of course address myself to you, whose resources can supply every deficiency. The communication of the intended day of my departure will depend on your reply to this letter; let me therefore have the pleasure of soon hearing from you on the subject of it.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 Oct. 1812.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 30th October 1812.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour of submitting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the enclosed translation of a letter which I have this day received from her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, fixing the day of her Highness's departure from her jagier for the 7th of the ensuing Mohummedan month, corresponding with the 13th or 14th of November.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th October 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Begum.

From Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon Nissa, (Received the 19th October 1812.)

My departure from my jagier has been fixed for the 7th of the month of Zeekaad (13th or 14th of November next), and the necessary preparations for my march are now nearly concluded.

I beg that you will report this circumstance immediately to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in order that a consideration of the friendship which subsisted between the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah and the British Government may induce his Lordship to issue such orders to the officers of his Government at Elahabad, as may ensure my reception in a suitable manner on the frontier of that district, and such treatment uniformly, after my arrival at that station, as will banish all remembrance of the vexation which has heretofore corroded my mind.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the following reply be addressed to the two foregoing despatches.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 15th and 19th instant, relative to Shums-oon-Nissa Begum's resolution to retire into the Company's provinces, and her selection of Elahabad for her place of residence, and to desire that you will correspond with the Magistrate of that district, apprizing him of her Highness's intention, and suggest to him the proper forms of respect with which she should be treated on her arrival, and during her residence in the district of Elahabad.

I have, &c.

Fort William,

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 8th January 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 Jan. 1813.

Letter-
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have great satisfaction in reporting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that I have this day received two petitions, bearing the seals of fifteen of the principal ladies of the Khoord Muhl, who reside in the Imam Baree of this city, and written with the concurrence of all the others, save a few who are publicly supported by the Vizier, expressive of their earnest desire to be permitted to return to Fyzabad, and claiming merely a small increase of their allowance, which I have ever considered to be reasonable, and which I have no doubt of her Highness the Bow Begum's disposition to grant to those ladies from the surplus revenue of the jaidad. Corresponding letters from those ladies, addressed to Tuhseen Alee Khan, have been received and submitted to my perusal.

2. The tenor and contents of those petitions, translations of which are enclosed, and the circumstances under which they have been prepared and transmitted to me, have so obvious a tendency to develope the extraordinary and unworthy intrigues by which the clamour in the Khoord Muhl was excited, the respectable Nazir superseded, and the authority of her Highness the Begum suspended for a time, that I deem it to be totally unnecessary to offer any further remarks on the singular conduct of the Vizier, which has occasioned so much trouble to the Government.

3. I intend to have the honour of breakfasting with his Excellency to-morrow, and I shall use my best endeavours to bring this vexatious discussion to a final and satisfactory adjustment.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From the Ladies of the Khoord Muhl. (Received the 28th December 1812.)

Enclosure.

By our unhappy destinies we were brought here and are dying of hunger. In the hope of an increase of salary, and of Siccass for Rikabee rupees, we exposed ourselves in the plains and came hither. Nearly four months have elapsed, and we are just as we were when we arrived ; not one of our desires has been accomplished. May God preserve you one hundred and thirty years in health and prosperity over our heads. We beg that you will obtain for us from his Excellency the Siccass for Rikabee rupees, and an increase of our pay, that we may return to Fyzabad without delay. To whom can we address ourselves but to you?

From the same, (with additional seals, and conveying an arzee to the address of the Vizier).

Enclosure.

We have no protector, relation, nor friend, save the Honourable Company and the Nawaub Vizier.

We left Fyzabad, uncalled by his Excellency, in the hope of an increase of pay and of Siccass for Rikabee rupees, which we claim as our right. Four months have elapsed, and not one of our desires has been accomplished. All mankind have justice from the Honourable Company : we also are hopeful that, through the justice of the Honourable Company, our petitions may be heard, our full pay with an increase and Sicca rupees may be given to us, and that we be permitted to depart to Fyzabad.

May God long preserve the Company. The Mohurram is fast approaching.

True translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 Jan. 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my letter under date the 28th instant, I have now the pleasure of reporting the actual departure towards Fyzabad of the whole of the ladies of the Khoord Muhl, with the exception, as I believe, of four or five, in seeming harmony with each other, and perfect reconciliation with the Nazir, Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan. A copy and translation of an acknowledgment, under the seals of a number of those ladies, expressive of their perfect satisfaction with the Nazir and future submission to his authority, which was voluntarily prepared and transmitted to me at a late hour of yesterday evening, are submitted for the information of the Government.

2. This truly satisfactory result of a most unjust and unwarrantable proceeding on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, and of a consequent vexatious and long protracted discussion between his Excellency and me, cannot fail to be agreeable to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council. It has been brought about chiefly, in my opinion, by the manifest justice of the cause which his Lordship in Council was pleased to espouse, in the first instance, in compliance with my suggestion, and partly perhaps by the temperate firmness and perseverance with which the cause of justice has been maintained, in opposition to base intrigue and to groundless clamour, uniformly detected, investigated, and exposed, with a seeming disregard of their consequences, during a period of several months.

3. His Excellency the Vizier has been pleased, from what secret motive, or with what degree of sincerity I know not, to express his highest satisfaction at the departure of those ladies from Lucknow. He has furnished suitable conveyance for them and their servants to Fyzabad; and after declining, on some frivolous pretext, to furnish a guard of his own sepoys for their protection, he has readily acquiesced in my design to afford them the protection of a small escort of the Honourable Company's troops, which has proceeded with them accordingly to Fyzabad.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
31st December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure.

Acknowledgment of the Ladies of the Khoord Muhl. (Received the 30th
December 1812.)

We, Goree Begum, Zeboon Nissa Khanum, Bebee Fyzec, and others, the widows of the late Nawaub, Shooja-oo Dowlah, of blessed memory, do hereby acknowledge and declare, that as long as we have breath in our bodies we will cheerfully and readily submit to the Nizarut of Tuhseen Alee Khan, with whom we are satisfied and pleased. In witness whereof, as a legal and valid instrument we have written and delivered these lines in the manner of a Razeenamah, to be considered hereafter as a Sunnud, sealed with the seals of the following ladies, viz. Fukhuroon Nissa Begum the daughter of Meer Mohummud, Bebee Fyzee, Bebee Saheb Jan, Hussen Baiee, Bebee Hoolia, Oothum Baiee, Misree Khanum, Bebee Fujjoo, Hooseynee Begum, Gomane Baiee, Bebee Nunhee, Zeboon Nissa Begum, Bebee Pearee, and Loll Baiee.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 28th and 31st ultimo, reporting the submission and return to Fyzabad of the ladies of the Khoord Muhl, and the latter enclosing an acknowledgment, on the part of the ladies, of their satisfaction with the Nazir, Tuhseen Alee Khan, and of their submission to his authority.

2. This

2. This favourable termination of a vexatious and troublesome affair has afforded great satisfaction to the Governor-General in Council, by whom it is ascribed in a high degree to the firmness and constancy of your efforts to effect it.

3. His Lordship in Council observes also, that the removal of this cause of embarrassment and dispute may be expected in some measure to facilitate the progress of the pending discussions with his Excellency the Vizier on other points of difference between the two Governments.

4. His Lordship in Council approves of your having afforded the ladies the protection of an escort of sepoy on their journey to Fyzabad.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
8th January 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 15th January 1813.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. The enclosed are copies of letters which have recently passed between the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, the commanding officer of the troops at Pertaubghur, and me, on the subject of a military arrangement for the defence of the Honourable Company's frontier, and protection of its subjects in the district of Elahabad, against the incursions of marauders, who find refuge in the Vizier's territory, and for the destruction or seizure of those marauders.

2. This arrangement was originally suggested by Mr. Fortescue, submitted by me to the Government in my despatch of the 15th of August last, and has now been carried into effect with the sanction and concurrence of the Vizier, as prescribed by the orders of the Government.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Thomas Fortescue, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Zillah Elahabad.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my letter to your address, under date the 15th ultimo, I have now the honour of informing you, that his Excellency the Vizier has been pleased to acquiesce in the measure which you proposed, of stationing an officer's party from Pertaubghur in the vicinity of the harbour of the marauders, who find refuge in his Excellency's territory; and I request the favour of your informing me of the position which you may now have selected for the cantonment of the party to be detached, that measures may be adopted accordingly.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, and to acquaint you that the village of Kulla Bhudownee, Pergunnah Bel Khur, the zemindary of Roy Zubber Sing, appears to me, from the circumstance of the inroads having been most frequent from that quarter, as well as its

Bengal Political
Consultations,
15 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Elahabad.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
15 Jan. 1813.

its being the general hiding place, to be the most advantageous position for the detachment to be stationed. I would, however, recommend that it be not considered as a permanent post, as it is not improbable that the banditti may, on the arrival of the troops in their neighbourhood, remove to some other quarter where it will be proper to follow them.

2. I request that the name of the officer may be communicated to me, and that he may be directed to correspond with me, as well as to attend to such information and suggestions as I may convey to him, relative to the banditti and the persons composing it, who have hitherto continued to alarm this district.

I have, &c.

Zillah Elahabad,
13th November 1812.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copies of letters which have recently passed between me and the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, on the subject of stationing a detachment from the troops under your command at a convenient position on the frontier of the district of Pertaubghur, with a view to the detection and seizure of certain marauders who have long infested the neighbouring district of Elahabad and found refuge in the Vizier's dominions, more especially in the Pergunnah of Bel Khur and zemindary of Roy Zubber Sing.

2. The nature of the service to be performed seems to me to be sufficiently explained in the accompanying documents, and the extent of the force to be employed, and the particular instructions which should be furnished to the commanding officer of the detachment, are left entirely, and with perfect confidence on my part, to your approved professional judgment.

3. An application has been made to the Vizier to ensure the co-operation of his Excellency's Aumil of Bel Khur in the measures which you may direct, and the regular supply of the detachment with provisions and every necessary article, in the case of its being permanently or temporarily cantoned in the position selected by the Magistrate, or any other more convenient place.

4. You will, of course, instruct the commanding officer of the detachment to correspond with the Magistrate of Elahabad, and keep that officer regularly apprized of his proceedings, and of every occurrence of moment connected with the object in view.

5. You will further be pleased to transmit a copy of your instructions to the commanding officer, and copies of his reports, for my information and for that of his Excellency the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Lucknow.
21st November 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

To Major John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant with enclosures, and beg leave to acquaint you that I immediately addressed a letter to Mr. Fortescue, the Judge and Magistrate at Elahabad, informing him that a complete company of sepoy, with a Havildar, Naick, and twelve troopers, would march as yesterday, under the command of Lieutenant Ellison, to Kulla Bhudownee or Bhedowlee, agreeably to his desire, and with instructions to conform to such orders or directions as he might deem necessary to send to that officer. I also requested Mr. Fortescue to send to Mr. Ellison two or three intelligent natives, to identify the persons whom he wishes to have apprehended.

I un-

I understand the offenders, Surnam Sing and Kishen Sing, are fugitives skulking about from village to village, I therefore judge that the detachment placed under the command of Lieutenant Ellison will be perfectly adequate to any duty he may have to perform; and as the frontier of his Excellency's country on this side is not more than one march of eight or nine coss from hence, I cannot think it will be necessary to keep a detachment permanently stationed (as suggested by Mr. Fortescue,) in the neighbourhood of Kulla Bhedowlee, since detachments might be sent out secretly from this post to seize any offender within a forced march, with better prospect of success than if stationed near the frontier, where they would be constantly watched and unable to make any movement without its being immediately known. On this point, however, I shall do myself the honour of writing to you more particularly hereafter.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
15 Jan. 1813.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Frith.

As Roy Zubber Sing has shewn a disposition to be on good terms with the commanding officer of this post ever since I have been here, I hope to get his assistance in apprehending any fugitives who may resort to his district; but I shall not take any steps until I hear from Mr. Fortescue.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of my instructions to Lieutenant Ellison, and beg leave to assure you that my best endeavours shall be used to accomplish the present service, in a manner that may be satisfactory to you and meet the approbation of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
26th November 1812.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding.

To Lieutenant Ellison, commanding a Detachment.

Sir :

Certain banditti, at the head of which are persons of the names of Surnam Sing, Kishen Sing, and Boodie, have been in the practice of plundering in the district of Elahabad, and of evading apprehension by retiring into the territory of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. These banditti are supposed to harbour, and occasionally to assemble in large parties, preparatory to committing their depredations, in the village of Kulla Bhedowlee, in the purgunnah of Bel Khur and zemindary of Roy Zubber Sing.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

The object of the detachment which has been placed under your command, by order of the Resident of Lucknow, is to put a stop to those depredations, and seize, if possible, the ringleaders and disperse those banditti; you will, therefore, proceed with your detachment to-morrow and encamp in the vicinity of the above-named village, choosing a convenient and secure position. Mr. Fortescue, the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, will send persons to you to identify and point out the persons to be apprehended, and you are to obey all orders and instructions which you may receive from time to time from him. You are also to correspond with him direct, and communicate such information as you may receive regarding the people to be apprehended, and such measures as you may adopt for this purpose, reporting occasionally all occurrences to me, for the purpose of forwarding for the information of the Resident at Lucknow and his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier.

You will be careful to keep your party at all times alert and on their guard; and though I think your force fully adequate to any duties you may have to perform, yet if you should, in the execution of the orders of the Magistrate of Elahabad, deem a reinforcement necessary, let me know without loss of time, and I will furnish it, as far as I am able, from the slender force at this post, since I would wish to leave as little to chance as possible.

As you are to be guided chiefly by the instructions which you will receive from the Magistrate at Elahabad, it is unnecessary for me to enter into any further details; I shall, therefore, conclude by observing, that I have perfect confidence in your best exertions being used to bring this service to a successful termination.

Bengal Political
Communications,
15 Jan. 1812.

I send an intelligent man, Buctour Sing, who is well acquainted with the country and inhabitants, to accompany you, and orders have been given for providing your detachment with the necessary supplies.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
24th November 1812.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Elahabad.

To Major John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th, enclosing a copy of your instructions to Colonel Frith of the 21st instant ; and in consequence of my having received notification from Lieutenant Ellison of his arrival on the 20th instant at Kulla Bhedowlee, I have addressed him this day, a copy of which letter is herewith transmitted for your information.

I have, &c.

Zillah Elahabad,
28th November 1812.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Elahabad.

To Lieutenant C. Ellison, commanding a Detachment, Kulla Bhedowlee.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, and have directed the Thanadars of Sooram and Foolpoor to station one or two of the Burkendauses of their establishments with you, and to depute one or two of their most intelligent informers to remain with you, in order to assist in procuring you accounts of the abode and intentions of the banditti who have so frequently made incursions into the Company's provinces from the neighbourhood in which you now are.

2. It is probable that your presence will prevent any further inroad ; but, from the information that has reached me from time to time, I am apprehensive that the party is by no means dispersed, and that they only wait a favourable opportunity to commit depredation. I would, therefore, suggest that you adopt the best means in your power, with a view to ascertain the residence of the banditti or any individuals of it, and should opportunity offer, to cause their apprehension.

3. I presume you will have been furnished with particular instructions from Colonel Frith ; and I shall only add, for the present, that the names of the persons whom I am most anxious to apprehend are Kishen Sing, Surnam Sing, and Sookha Sing, who have been proclaimed, and Bodie who has not.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 4th instant, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government, the enclosed copies of letters which I have more recently received from the commanding officer of the troops at Pertaubghur, reporting the proceedings of the detachment employed on the frontier of that district for the apprehension of the principal marauders who infest the district of Elahabad. In the latter of Colonel Frith's reports, the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will observe with satisfaction the account of the seizure of one of the offenders pointed out by the Magistrate of Elahabad.

2 I have

2. I have hitherto delayed to acknowledge the receipt of the Chief Secretary's letter under date the 28th of October, in answer to my despatch of the 28th of September last, having reference to the military arrangements, the salutary influence of which in the seizure of one of its objects is now reported to the Government. The communication which that letter prescribed has been made to his Excellency the Vizier, in, I trust, an impressive manner, and will be attended, I have reason to hope, with the most beneficial effects.

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I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

I have the honour to enclose the copy of a letter from Lieutenant Ellison who commands the detachment at Bhedowlee, and as no intelligence can be obtained of the people whom Mr. Fortescue wishes to have apprehended, and the Zemindars can have no interest in harbouring or screening them from justice, I have suggested to Mr. Fortescue the recalling the detachment until some certain accounts can be obtained of the retreat of the offenders, when a party of troops can be sent out privately to seize them, which appears to me the only mode of laying hold of them.

When I hear from Mr. Fortescue, I will do myself the honour of transmitting for your information a copy of my letter and his reply.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
12th December 1812.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding.

To Lieutenant-Colonel R. Frith, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant Ellison.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have made every enquiry in my power in order to gain intelligence regarding the banditti, both by means of men and letters, but without effect.

I have had ten men belonging to Mr. Fortescue, the Magistrate, out for the last eight days, but they cannot gain the least information respecting the persons I am in quest of.

I have the honour of transmitting to you two letters, which were received in answer to two which I have written for the purpose of getting information, one from Dewan Zubber Sing, the other from Isharee Bukhsh, and you will see by them that they are ignorant of any such people being in this part of the country. I also beg leave to inform you, that I enquired from the different villagers round, and they say that they were in this part of the country about four months ago, but they have not heard anything of them since ; and I beg leave to observe, that if they were in this part of the country, Mr. Fortescue's men would be likely to find them out, on account of their local knowledge.

I beg leave to state, that from its being unlikely that we can acquire any further information with respect to these men, I think the detention of the detachment at this place cannot be attended with any beneficial consequences, as the country around appears perfectly peaceable and quiet.

I have, &c.

Camp, Kulla Bhedowlee,
9th December 1812.

(Signed) C. ELLISON,
Lieutenant, commanding Detachment.

To

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15 Jan. 1813.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

To Major John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you that Lieutenant Ellison, commanding the detachment at Kulla Bhedowlee, sent in yesterday three Chupprassies belonging to Mr. Fortescue, the Judge and Magistrate at Elahabad, giving information that two of the offenders whom Mr. Fortescue wished to have seized, *viz.* Sookha Sing and Bisna Sing, were in a small village called Gomaun Sing-ke Poorwa, near Nowrengabad, and about five coss from hence, and that in consequence of this information I detached last night a company of sepoys and a small party of cavalry, under the command of Lieutenant Orlando Stubbs, for the purpose of seizing those offenders.

Lieutenant Stubbs returned this morning with his detachment, having succeeded in securing one of the offenders, Bisna Sing; the other, Sookha Sing, having left the village yesterday forenoon, in consequence, as the villagers report, of a quarrel with some of them, attended by four or five followers. They could not tell the direction he took, but expressed great regret that they did not know of the party's coming, as in that case they would have seized and secured him before he left the village.

Lieutenant Stubbs executed this duty with address and entirely to my satisfaction, and he reports that the villagers behaved remarkably well, and assisted with the greatest readiness in securing the offender.

As the man who has been seized is an inhabitant of the Elahabad district, I purpose sending him over with a party which will proceed for treasure in a few days, and delivering him to the Magistrate, which I hope will be approved.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
15th December 1812.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 4th and 19th ultimo with their enclosures, and to inform you that the Governor-General in Council has received with satisfaction your report of the conclusion, with the sanction and concurrence of the Nawaub Vizier, of the arrangement for the protection of the frontier of the district of Elahabad against marauders from his Excellency's territory, and the success with which it has been already attended, by the apprehension of one of the principal offenders.

2. Your communication with the Magistrate of Elahabad and the commanding officer at Pertaubghur is entirely approved by his Lordship in Council.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
15th January 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

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EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 22d January 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council, &c.

My Lord :

1. His Excellency the Vizier having been pleased to address a letter to your Lordship, in which his Excellency complains of my conduct as your Lordship's representative at his Court, I deem this to be a suitable occasion of addressing your Lordship directly, and of expressing my humble reliance on the wisdom and justice of the Government for a just and impartial decision on the merits of his Excellency's complaint.

2. That

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. That the nature of the negotiations and discussions which have arisen at the court of Lucknow, during the last two years, should have excited the resentment of the Vizier against the organ of your Lordship's instructions, and of the accomplishment of your just views, cannot be a matter of surprise: yet a formal and serious complaint, of the nature of that which is before me, was certainly as unexpected on my part, as the object of his Excellency's letter, and the principal circumstances which are stated in it, will appear to your Lordship, I trust, to be evasive and destitute of foundation.

3. With a view to facilitate and expedite the decision of your Lordship in Council on the subject of his Excellency's complaint, I have the honour of submitting for your perusal a verbal translation of his letter, with translations of all its enclosures, and a translation of a statement in answer, which I have presented to the Vizier, for the purpose of enabling him to reply to it, if the contents shall suggest a reply. This statement contains, as I have mentioned in it, the whole of the substance, a correct recapitulation of the language, and a faithful description of the manner, of my discourse to his Excellency the Vizier, at our conference on the 19th of December. Having previously written notes for the conference, in conformity with my uniform practice on occasions of the smallest importance, it is impossible that I should have erred from forgetfulness, and I am unconscious of a design to deceive.

4. The tenor of the instructions of Government, conveyed to me by the chief Secretary's despatch under date the 23d of October, and communicated to his Excellency the Vizier at the commencement of the conference referred to, was of a nature to create apprehension in the mind of a person disposed to persist in those unwarrantable proceedings, which gave rise to your Lordship's resolution regarding the eventual employment of the British troops in this country without reference to the authority of the Vizier.

5. It is possible, though by no means my opinion, that the communication of this resolution, with the inferences to be naturally deduced from it, and which were certainly pointed to by me as applicable to some other questions under discussion, might give rise to his Excellency's misconstruction of the remaining parts of my discourse; and a remark of an equivocal nature, which I now recollect him to have made towards the conclusion of our conference, would give ground for this supposition. After hearing a translation of the substance of the Chief Secretary's letter above noticed, and my comments on the tenor of that letter, as applicable to the questions in dispute between his Excellency and her Highness the Begum, his Excellency, in a taunting manner, observed, "You appear to have settled every thing, and of course I have nothing to say;" or words to that purpose; to which I immediately replied, without adverting to the drift of his remark, that in as far as depended on me, I had placed them in a train of adjustment, and should be happy when they were finally settled. The conference lasted, however, for some time after this. We conversed on desultory subjects, and parted, as I believed at the time, in perfect harmony with each other: nay, an interchange of visits and other friendly observances have passed between us, as usual, since the 19th of December last. A conference took place on the 28th, when the question of the Khoord Muhl was settled to his Excellency's apparent satisfaction, and a passport was promised for Hyder Bukhsh; and, under all these circumstances, your Lordship will readily believe that my receipt of his Excellency's letter, which is now submitted for your perusal, was an occurrence as unexpected on my part, as any that has taken place, in my recollection, since my arrival at the Court of Lucknow.

6. The more probable cause of this complaint, as consistent with and deducible from the Vizier's characteristic evasion, is a conviction in his Excellency's mind that the just views of the Government, and the objects of your Lordship in Council's repeated instructions to me and solemn advice to his Excellency, are no longer to be frustrated or opposed by any arguments that his Excellency can adduce, or by any reasoning on the merits of the questions at issue; and that the equivocal expression of a wish to travel or to relinquish his Government, so frequently resorted to before, is the only remaining expedient to induce your Lordship in Council to abandon your just views, to concede every point that

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

has been argued, and to leave his Excellency at liberty to pursue his schemes of rapacity with the aid of the British power, and to satiate his feelings of resentment against our subjects and faithful dependants who reside within the verge of his control.

7. That the Vizier in reality entertains, or has ever entertained, the most distant idea of travelling beyond the limits of his own territory, is as far from my belief and persuasion, as my knowledge of his Excellency's character, founded on the careful observation and constant experience of years, is in my own judgment necessarily accurate: and I might venture with confidence to predict, that your Lordship's declared consent to his Excellency's proceeding on a pilgrimage, under the provisions which were settled by Lord Wellesley, would be followed by a limitation of his design to the usual hunting excursion, or would lead to its dereliction entirely, as on every former occasion.

8. But on this portion of the subject of his Excellency's letter to your Lordship it were presumption in me to enlarge, since your Lordship's wisdom alone can be competent to decide on the expedience of encouraging or opposing the disposition, pretended or real, of the Vizier, to retire from the government of his country. Of the remaining parts of his letter, in as far as my own conduct is concerned, I have afforded in the statement enclosed what will, I trust, appear to your Lordship to be a full and satisfactory exposition, and will serve to demonstrate beyond a doubt, that I have never at any time transgressed the limits of my positive duty in the execution of your Lordship's commands, nor failed in the observances of respect which are certainly due to his Excellency.

9. The Vizier, if I may credit reports, is already disposed to repent his having made so unjust an accusation. The manner of his messages to me since his transmission of the letter for your Lordship has been fully as conciliatory as before, and I have reason to suppose that a little encouragement on my part would induce the expression of his wish to recall the letter entirely, and to acquiesce in the explanation which I have offered. Yet it is my natural and earnest desire, that his Excellency's complaint should be heard, and that a solemn decision should be passed on the merits of a question of such importance to the credit of my official character and to my future prospects in life, as well as indeed to the security and confidence of every accredited agent at the Court of an Indian prince; since it is obvious that on many occasions of negotiation, like mine with the Vizier, an accusation of intemperance or disrespect may be preferred from malicious and interested motives, to evade, or at least to protract, the accomplishment of the views of the Government, by inducing the recall of its agent, or an investigation into the merits of the charge.

10. Before I conclude this address, I will take the liberty of submitting to your Lordship's humane consideration, the peculiar hardships and oppression to which the native officers and soldiers of the Honourable Company's service, and their numerous families and relations, are subjected daily more and more by the rapacity of the Vizier's Aumils and his Excellency's support of their proceedings. It is the general belief of those Aumils, and a prevalent opinion throughout Oude, that the favour and patronage of the Vizier can be by no means so effectually secured as by distressing the dependants of our Government and harassing them with groundless complaints. The particular case of Mal Tewaree, a Naick in the Twenty-fourth Regiment, which is referred to in the statement enclosed, is one of the most cruel that can be imagined. This unfortunate person, while on duty with his regiment in Lucknow, was informed of the distress of his family, in consequence of the extortion of an Aumil at no great distance from this place, and proceeding on leave of absence from his battalion in the month of July last, had no sooner arrived at his village than he was seized and confined in a fortress, and loaded with the heaviest irons, and the whole of his property confiscated, and converted to the use of the Aumil. The commanding officer in cantonments, when the naick's leave of absence expired, sent a person to enquire for him at his village, and on learning the particulars of his confinement made an application to me for his release. I accompanied my requisition for this purpose to the Vizier with a just and natural request, that the offending Aumil should be punished. He was accordingly, summoned to the Presence, continued in attendance for some days, and was permitted

permitted to depart to his district, under a promise, announced to me by the Vizier, of immediate reparation to the complainant. Mal Tewaree has been ever since in attendance at his Excellency's gate or at mine, and the redress of his extraordinary grievance seems now as remote as on the day when it was first represented to his Excellency.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

11. A number of other cases, equally in point though not so strong, might be submitted for your Lordship's information; but the above will be sufficient, I conceive, to justify, in your Lordship's opinion, the remarks which I deemed it my duty to offer for the consideration of the Vizier at our conference on the 19th December, which forms the subject of his Excellency's complaint.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
4th January 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier to the Right Honourable the Governor-General,
dated the 1st January 1813.

Letter
from the Vizier.

After the usual compliments:

As your Lordship's sincere well-wisher considers your Lordship to be his kind and sympathizing friend, and knows to a certainty that you are his benefactor, and as it is obvious that the rank of a Prince which your well-wisher possesses has been acquired through the protection and assistance of the Honourable Company alone, for which your well-wisher is grateful to the Company; and as I consider your Lordship to be my kind and sympathizing friend, therefore deeming a representation of certain occurrences here to be indispensable, I write to your Lordship as follows:

After ceding the ceded provinces, which was done for the satisfaction of the English Government, I felt assured that, through the kindness of that Government, my life would be spent in perfect comfort and ease, with full power and security.

By chance unpleasant circumstances have arisen, of which the following is a statement: Major Baillie, in consequence of dissatisfaction with me, for some time past has failed in those observances of respectful consideration in his letters which were practised by the Residents at my Court. He prevented me from going on a hunting excursion. At a recent conference, on Saturday the 14th of Zeehijj (19th December), he observed to me in great anger, that he considered the respectful consideration which he had hitherto shewn to the Presence as improper; that, with regard to certain questions requiring adjustment, my consent was unnecessary; that it behoved him, in compliance with the requisition of the elder Begum, to send his own people and place her in possession of the disputed villages; to send his own people to adjust the complaints of the Honourable Company's sepoys and possess them of their rights, agreeably to their request; and to send a servant of his own to pass Hyder Bukhsh out of the city.

Your well-wisher became very apprehensive in consequence of those observations; and afterwards, on the 16th Zeehijj (21st December), the Resident sent me a letter of that date, containing a declaration, under the seal of Hyder Bukhsh, with a copy of a former letter, dated the 11th Zekaud 1224 (19th December 1809), in answer to a letter from the Presence, copies of all which are now transmitted to your Lordship, and will explain the particulars. It will appear to your Lordship from this letter, that the Resident has plainly falsified your well-wisher's words, and imputed oppression to your well-wisher: whereas, in reality, he himself formerly wrote to me, that if I had any demands against Hyder Bukhsh, he would see them liquidated, otherwise that he would give him leave to depart to his house; and consequently your well-wisher wrote to him a true statement of the case, in compliance with his request, as may be seen by the copies enclosed. Further, your well-wisher never in any way oppressed nor dealt harshly with Hyder Bukhsh, nor ever expressed a wish to this effect to the Resident.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

As your Lordship's sincere well-wisher knows no other kind and sympathizing friend in the world than your Lordship, and the power and strength of your well-wisher depend on your Lordship's protection alone, and as the plan here has assumed another appearance, your well-wisher, seeing these matters, has become apprehensive in the extreme.

The wish of the Resident now is to settle all matters in his own way, and merely to apprise me of the settlement; but your well-wisher will never consent to this: and matters have come to such a pitch, that my statements are falsified in every case, and the assertions of others are believed, which is extremely distressing and disagreeable to me.

I can never reconcile myself to the idea of argument and altercation with the Resident on every question that occurs, for I consider this to be totally beyond my power, and I never expected such proceedings from any Resident at my Court. Therefore seeing all those occurrences, I am greatly distressed; and, considering it for my advantage to remove from hence, I am induced to solicit your Lordship's permission to my travelling, and I await your answer to this letter.

Hitherto matters have been carried on through your Lordship's kindness alone; but now, if the veil is to be removed, your well-wisher can do nothing; and therefore I beg your Lordship not to delay an answer to this letter, nor to consider your well-wisher like any of the other Princes, but as obedient to your Lordship at all times, and to treat me with kindness accordingly.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 19th December 1812.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note, desiring me to submit for your perusal a translation of the orders of the Government regarding the case of Hyder Bukhsh.

The instructions which I received from the Government respecting all the dependents of the late Almass Alee Khan have been repeatedly explained to your Excellency, and a translation is already in your possession. The case, however, of Hyder Bukhsh, and his title to depart from Lucknow, are obviously not of a nature to require the especial notice and orders of the Governor-General in Council. Hyder Bukhsh is unquestionably a subject of the Honourable Company, and an inhabitant of Corah in the British dominions. His connection with Almass Alee Khan occasioned his temporary residence in Lucknow, which he now wishes to quit and to return to his house in the Doab; for which purpose he has obtained a passport under the Right Honourable the Governor-General's signature and seal, which is equivalent to the express order of the Government, for his departure whenever he thinks proper, and no cause for his detention has been shewn. If he be indebted to your Excellency's Government, and your Excellency will be pleased to explain and establish the grounds of your demand, I am ready to order the payment of it; but, otherwise, as I have already submitted to you, I deem myself to be fully authorized to grant him permission to go to his house, which I shall do accordingly, and report the circumstance to Government, with the other particulars of our conference of this morning at the Residency.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 20th December 1812.)

You have stated to me, that if I have any demands against Hyder Bukhsh, I should explain them, in order that you may direct him to liquidate them. The case is this: after the death of Almass Alee Khan this person appeared in the Presence, and represented that he had seventy thousand rupees and a few thousand gold monars, which he was ready to give me for permission to proceed on a pilgrimage. I desired him to remain in attendance with confidence, and
shortly

shortly after he applied for the office of Darogha of the Dewan Khana, which I declined to confer on him. Shortly after this he sought the office of Khan-saman, and I gave him a khelat of distinction, on which he presented an arzee promising not to quit Lucknow without my permission, which arzee I showed to Fukeer-ood Deen Ahmud (Mirza Jafer). Since that period I have never distressed him in any manner whatever, and he then commenced his attendance on you, abandoning the Presence entirely.

He was originally a Hindoo, and afterwards became the slave of Almass, who was the slave of the Presence. Fyzoolla, the treasurer, and Gholum Mohummud Toshukchee, keeper of the wardrobe to the late Almass, assert that Hyder Bukhsh has appropriated part of the wealth of Almass; and if this be proved, let Hyder Bukhsh answer to the charge.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

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22 Jan. 1813.

Letter from the
Vizier.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 19th December 1809.—11th Zekaud 1224.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter * of yesterday's date, stating that your Excellency had desired me to address the Right Honourable the Governor-General respecting Hyder Bukhsh; that I had accordingly done so, and had stated in person to your Excellency the orders of Government in answer, but that, as your Excellency had forgotten the substance of my verbal communication on this subject, you wished me to submit it in writing.

I do not remember that your Excellency ever desired me to address the Government regarding Hyder Bukhsh; but I perfectly well recollect, that on the death of Almass Alee Khan, I admitted, in conversation with your Excellency, your preferable right to the property of the deceased over the claim which the Begum had advanced to it, and pointed out the only unexceptionable, or even reputable means, by which your Excellency could get possession of the property. I also submitted, on that occasion, the whole of the circumstances of the case to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, whose commands were communicated to your Excellency, the substance of which is as follows :

“ The Governor-General in Council is unwilling to admit the belief that the
“ Vizier will exert the right of sovereigns of Mahometan countries over persons
“ in the situation of the late Almass Alee Khan, to the extent of reducing his
“ family and dependents to want or distress. Should you, however, have reason
“ to apprehend that his Excellency contemplates any measures of severity and
“ harshness, you will not hesitate to represent to him, in the most urgent and
“ impressive manner, the injustice as well as impolicy of such acts, setting
“ before him in the strongest light the injurious consequences to his reputation
“ as a Prince, which acts of such unjust severity towards the family of an old
“ servant of his house would produce. His Lordship in Council cannot doubt
“ that your representation, urged with earnestness and made in the name of the
“ Government, will produce a proper effect on the mind of the Vizier.”

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 21st December 1812.)

A perusal of your Excellency's letter dated yesterday, and having reference to the case of Hyder Bukhsh, has excited my surprise and concern; and although it be unnecessary and unpleasant to trouble the Government with references on such trifling matters as this is, I shall be compelled, on the present occasion, to submit a translation of your Excellency's letter, now acknowledged, with a correct and particular statement of the merits of this case, to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that his Lordship in Council may be apprized of the extraordinary grounds or pretexts on which your Excellency would seem to have resolved to distress the dependants of our Government, in opposition to his Lordship's advice.

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At

* This letter does not appear upon the Consultations.

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22 Jan. 1818.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

At the same time, I must beg your Excellency to recollect, that the resolution now expressed upon my part of representing the case of Hyder Bukhsh to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, is by no means intended to supersede the requisition which I have conveyed to your Excellency for the unmolested departure of Hyder Bukhsh, as a subject of the British Government and furnished with a regular passport under the Governor-General's seal, whenever he may think proper to quit your capital. On the contrary, I repeat to your Excellency, that the permission which I consider myself as fully authorized to grant to that person for his departure is still in force, and that any attempt on the part of your Excellency's officers to detain him will be, in my judgment, highly improper.

Your Excellency has been pleased to remark, "that after the death of Almass Alee Khan, Hyder Bukhsh attended in your presence and declared," &c. (recapitulate.)

I have thought it my duty, with the view of ascertaining the real circumstances of the grounds on which your Excellency would forcibly detain Hyder Bukhsh in your capital, to summon that person before me, and to examine him particularly on oath. His deposition has been taken accordingly, and is submitted for your Excellency's perusal, without comment; for to comment on the particulars to which he has sworn seems to me to be totally useless.

Your Excellency's assertion, that an arzee on the part of Hyder Bukhsh, containing a promise never to quit Lucknow without your consent, was presented by that person to your Excellency, and exhibited by your Excellency to Mirza Jafer, a confidential servant of mine, seemed to require more minute investigation, and I have questioned Mirza Jafer on the subject. He denies his having ever seen such an arzee in the Presence; and it is certainly very extraordinary, if he had seen and read it as declared by your Excellency, that he should have concealed the circumstance from me.

A copy of the Arzee, however, has been exhibited to me this day by Hyder Bukhsh, and it certainly does not contain the promise which your Excellency has been pleased to adduce. The explanation, too, afforded upon oath, of the circumstances under which the arzee was wrested from Hyder Bukhsh, rather than voluntarily presented by him to your Excellency, is particularly worthy of notice. Your Excellency's allusion to the circumstance and causes of Hyder Bukhsh's attendance on me may be answered, by recalling to your recollection the occasion of your request of my agency towards the liquidation of your demands against Almass Alee Khan. On that occasion, as your Excellency knows, I summoned all the principal dependants of Almass before me, and induced them, by a promise of protection, to liquidate the arrears of Almass, with the view of his and their obtaining a general acquittance from your Excellency. To Hyder Bukhsh, who on that occasion contributed a considerable sum of money for the attainment of the object in view, I promised not only my protection, but also the permission of our Government to proceed on a pilgrimage to Mecca, or to visit and reside with his family in the Doab, provided he should not undertake any office or situation of responsibility in the service of your Excellency's Government. On the faith of this promise by me, and under fears of oppression by your Excellency, Hyder Bukhsh has continued to attend me, and occasionally to urge me for permission to depart from the city of Lucknow.

From the tenor of your Excellency's message to me on Saturday last, requiring a translation of my instructions from Government for the protection of the dependants of Almass, and more particularly from the intention which you evince of compelling Hyder Bukhsh to continue his residence in this city, it would seem that your Excellency had forgotten the contents of your own letter to my address, under date the tenth of Zeekaud 1224 (18th December 1809), and of my answer to that letter, which was written on the following day, conveying to you the sentiments of the Government, as expressed in the following words:

"Should you, however, have reason to apprehend that his Excellency contemplates any measures of severity and harshness, you will not hesitate to represent

" represent to him, in the most urgent and impressive manner, the injustice as well as impolicy of such acts, setting before him, in the strongest light, the injurious consequences to his reputation as a Prince, which acts of such unjust severity towards the family of an old servant of his house would produce."

Bengal Political
Consultations,
22 Jan. 1818.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I intreat your Excellency to compare the impressive and friendly advice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, as expressed in the foregoing words, with the design which you now entertain of forcing Hyder Bukhsh to remain in a city, where he has neither subsistence nor employment, and preventing his retreat to his home in the Honourable Company's territory, where he enjoys or has a prospect of both.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Deposition, on Oath, of Hyder Bukhsh, taken on Monday the 21st of December, before the Resident at Lucknow.

Question. State, on your oath, with accuracy, the cause and circumstances of your attending in the presence of his Excellency the Vizier, both before and after the death of the late Almass Alee Khan.

Answer. The state of the case is as follows :—When Almass Alee Khan was pleased to grant me his permission for my proceeding on a pilgrimage to Kurbula, I presented a petition to his Excellency for an order to quit the city, without which no person can have egress, and the prayer of this petition was refused. I then applied to Ray Jeysook Ray, and afterwards repeatedly to Mirza Muhdee Alee Khan, who informed me that it was his Excellency's pleasure I should continue in attendance in the Presence and accept an employment in the State. This I most peremptorily refused, declaring that I had no wish for employment, or should have continued to serve my master Almass, who had much of the country in his hands : that my sole and earnest desire was to be permitted to proceed on a pilgrimage. Soon after this Shurf Alee Khan summoned me before him, and urged me strenuously to attend in the Presence, which I was thus forced to agree to, considering any further resistance to his Excellency's will as improper ; and accordingly, with Almass's permission, I attended, and was treated with extraordinary distinction, as well as encouraged to hope for permission to proceed on a pilgrimage.

Q. It would appear that while attending in the Presence after the death of Almass Alee Khan, you declared yourself to be in possession of seventy thousand rupees and several thousand gold mohurs, which you offered as a douceur to his Excellency for permission to proceed to Kurbula : state, on your oath, correctly, the circumstances of this transaction.

A. They are as follow. Shortly after the death of Almass, I renewed my application to the Presence for permission to proceed on a pilgrimage, and was desired to rely on his Excellency's favour with confidence. The mention of money, too, I recollect, and it occurred exactly as follows. I stated to his Excellency the Vizier that I did possess, at one time, the sum of seventy thousand rupees in silver and property, which I had devoted to the liquidation of the balances of revenue which were claimed from my master, Almass ; and that now the wreck of my fortunes, after disposing of every thing in my possession, might amount to fifteen or twenty thousand rupees and two hundred gold mohurs, which I reserved as an offering at the holy shrines ; but, if his Excellency should be pleased to deprive me of a part of this sum, and permit me to retain merely enough for the expenses of my journey, I was willing to pay any portion of it into his Excellency's treasury. I was commanded, in answer, to be at rest, and that a particular answer should be given on further consideration. The mention of the sum of seventy thousand rupees I solemnly declare to have occurred in the manner above stated, and the number of gold mohurs which I mentioned to have been no more than two hundred in all.

Q. It

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Q. It would seem that, at one period of your attendance in the Presence, you solicited the offices of Darogha of the Dewan Khana, and Khansaman to his Excellency the Vizier : state the circumstances under which you applied for those offices.

A. I solemnly deny, upon my oath, my having ever solicited or wished for an appointment of any description under his Excellency the Vizier. The inviolable practice of his Excellency's Government is known to be, that no requests nor negotiations on the subject of appointment to office are ever verbally heard or received, but that written applications, under the seal of the candidate, are uniformly demanded. If I had ever made such an application, it must have been in writing under my seal, and may now be produced against me. This application, if ever made in my name, was totally false and malicious. I had three times the honour of a khelat from the Presence, but never wished for, nor accepted, nor interfered in any manner in, the service of the State.

Q. It would appear that you presented an arzee to his Excellency, promising never to depart from Lucknow without his consent.

A. The true statement of this affair is as follows. Raie Ruttun Chund sent for me one day, and shewed me two drafts of an arzee and memorandum, to which, under the order as he said of the Presence, my seal was immediately required. I at first refused to sign any one of them, declaring that they were in direct opposition to my wishes, which tended only to my obtaining permission to depart, and consequently that I could never sign or seal them with my free will or accord. The Raie answered, that such were the orders of the Presence; that I must not on any pretext disobey them; that his Excellency was disposed to befriend me; and that I could never expect to live in peace, save by obeying the orders and conforming with the will of his Excellency.

By these means I was at length compelled to put my seal to the papers, which I delivered into the hands of Ruttun Chund; and two days after I got back the memorandum from the Raie with the sign manual of his Excellency, granting me an allowance of five hundred rupees per mensem. But being ever indisposed to receive place or pension from his Excellency, and desirous to proceed on a pilgrimage, I have not accepted nor been offered a single rupee of the salary from that day until this.

Q. Fyzoola Khan Khezanchee, and Gholam Mohommed Toshukchie of the late Almass Ale Khan, assert that you have fraudulently appropriated a part of the wealth of Almass. How is this?

A. This assertion is totally false and groundless, I solemnly declare upon my oath. If I had appropriated any part of Almass's wealth in his lifetime, he would doubtless have called me to an account, and would never have permitted me to proceed on a pilgrimage, far less have granted me an acquittance of my conduct and intromissions with his property in full of all demands. This is perfectly clear, I apprehend.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 2d January 1813.)

Your Excellency having been pleased, in your letter of yesterday's date to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which I shall have the honour of forwarding without delay, to convey some complaints of my conduct, which it behoves me, of course, to reply to, I deem it proper, in the first instance, to submit a few observations to your Excellency, with the view of requesting an elucidation of some points of your complaint which appear to require explanation.

Your Excellency has complained, in the first place, of a want of respect in my letters, proceeding from dissatisfaction or displeasure. Now, although the displeasure of the British Government, and consequently my dissatisfaction at your Excellency's recent proceedings, and the obvious grounds of them, namely, your

your Excellency's uniform opposition to the just views of the Government and total disregard of my advice, be readily admitted and established, yet as I am totally unconscious of any failure in the observances of personal respect, I am naturally at a loss to conceive to which of my recent letters your Excellency has been pleased to allude, and therefore I beg to be informed, whether your Excellency refers merely to those of which copies are conveyed in your address to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and are indeed already before him, or there be any other letters of mine to form the ground of your Excellency's complaint, that those also may be submitted to the Government.

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Letter
from Resident at
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Your Excellency's second complaint has a reference to my supposed prevention of your hunting excursion last year. In answer to this, if it were necessary, I might beg your Excellency to recollect that an annual hunting excursion, in the hottest season of the year, was never your Excellency's practice till I had the honour of residing at your Court; since which I have on four successive occasions, without reluctance, and with a view to your Excellency's pleasure, suffered all the fatigues of a journey, and cheerfully attended your Excellency in camp for months during the most inclement season of the year. But, with a reference to the last year in particular, which is the subject of your Excellency's complaint, the real state of the case your Excellency must admit to be as follows: at a conference in my own house, in the month of March or April, when the hunting excursion and the preparations for your journey were mentioned, I begged your Excellency to reflect that a letter from the Right Honourable the Governor-General, on a subject of the utmost importance, the reform of your Excellency's administration, had been before you for upwards of a year, and that it seemed to me to be advisable that your Excellency should take some steps in this business, and prepare your answer to the Governor-General before you set out on your journey, but that your Excellency might act as you thought proper; to which your Excellency immediately replied, that you would put off the hunting excursion.

If your Excellency be now pleased to consider the above suggestion on my part, to the verbal accuracy of which I am ready to depose upon oath, as a prevention of your hunting excursion, I must acquiesce in your Excellency's construction.

The third ground of complaint is the substance of my conference with your Excellency on Saturday the 19th of December, at which I submitted an abstract of the orders of Government, under dates the 8th of May and 23d of October last, having reference to the employment of the British troops for the suppression or seizure of banditti infesting the Honourable Company's territory and finding refuge in your Excellency's dominions, applying those orders of the Government, and their necessary consequences, with the purest motives of friendship, as a salutary caution to your Excellency against the effects of your continuing to oppose the just views of our Government.

To those orders, in fact, and to my exposition of their tendency, in the strict discharge of my duty, and from the purest motives of friendship, I ascribe entirely and exclusively the tenor of your present complaint. To persons who know much less, and to others who know more, than your Excellency of my disposition and manners, I may safely refer for the truth of my solemn and candid assertion, that I am incapable of shewing anger in argument, on subjects or occasions of the nature to which your Excellency alludes, and that the words which your Excellency has been pleased to ascribe to me were never uttered by me in the manner, nor to the effect, which you have stated.

Our conversation was entirely in Hindoostanee, and I held written memoranda of my own part of it in my hand at the time. I commenced with observing to your Excellency, that it had long been my practice, and should ever be my earnest desire, from motives of respect for your Excellency, to avoid urging you repeatedly, or with earnestness, on any question whatever, however just in my own opinion, without a previous reference to the Government and receiving its positive orders to that effect. That the cases of Budjha Sing and of the banditti in Elahabad were striking examples of this remark; and that the result of the references on those subjects now before you, and on many other questions formerly

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

referred, as removing the veil from your conduct, should naturally suggest to your Excellency the wisdom, and even the necessity of paying some degree of regard to my suggestions on other points. That the questions of the superintendence of the Khoord Muhl, disputed villages in Binga, and other contested points between your Excellency and her Highness the Begum, were fully as clear as the former, were originally susceptible of decision by me, without any reference to the Government, and that the result of the references on these points might be naturally expected to be the same with that which I had just read in your presence; for it was clearly the province of the British Government, in its character of guarantee of the rights of both parties, to arbitrate and decide on all matters contested between them, and to place the party aggrieved in the full possession of its rights, and that such in my belief would prove the consequence of your Excellency's delay to do justice to her Highness the elder Begum. Digressing from more important subjects to questions of smaller moment, I complained in strong, but respectful terms, of your Excellency's delay to acquiesce in the departure of Hyder Bukhsh, a native subject of the British Government, and holding the Governor-General's passport in his hands for his departure from Lucknow and on a pilgrimage. I complained, further, of your extraordinary delay to redress the grievances of the Honourable Company's sepoys, and specified the particular case of Mal Tewarree, naick, who had been confined in irons by one of your Excellency's Aumils for weeks, and the whole of his property plundered, and whose redress, like that of many other persons, was evaded by the contending statements of the aggressors and aggrieved, the former supported by your Excellency, and the means of due investigation denied.

With regard to all those cases I argued, that a constant reference to the Supreme Government was totally unnecessary, save from motives of respect for your Excellency, since my own judgment and official authority were sufficient to bring them to an equitable decision.

That the obviously just and most simple method of doing so was to depute Ameens or Chuprassies to the spot, for the purpose of investigating the grounds of complaint, and to consider and act on the reports of those Ameens as decisive of the questions at issue between the Aumils and the parties aggrieved. That this seemed to me to be now the only remaining expedient for redressing the wrongs of the sepoys; and with regard to the departure of Hyder Bukhsh, as a question already decided by the instructions of the Government to me, I have no hesitation in admitting that I frankly declared to your Excellency my resolution of employing a servant of my own to pass him beyond the gates of the city, if your Excellency should persist in refusing to permit him to depart to his home in the Honourable Company's dominions, or to shew some good cause for his detention.

The above, to the best of my recollection, is the whole of the substance, and a faithful description of the manner, of my share in the conference with your Excellency on the morning of the 19th of December. If there be any thing demonstrative of anger, or of a wish, far less a resolution, "to settle every point in my own way," and merely to apprise your Excellency of the settlement, your Excellency has now to explain it, and the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will decide.

To express a direct contradiction of the assertion of any person, the lowest in the world, is totally foreign to my forms of speech, and can never issue from my pen. But I am perfectly ready to admit, that cases have arisen, and may arise, in which a manifest difference between your Excellency's statement on a particular question at issue, and that of a poor person, the other party in the cause, may require that I should form a judgment of the merits of the case from concomitant circumstances and proofs, and that my judgment being at variance with your Excellency's, I feel it my duty to declare this opinion, in argument or in correspondence, without reserve. If by this conduct on my part, your Excellency should be induced to complain that I have falsified your Excellency's assertions, I may frequently give cause of complaint without the smallest intention of offending.

Your

Your Excellency has observed in your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that you never expected such proceedings from the Resident at your Excellency's Court; yet the obvious cause of those proceedings, and of every circumstance or measure on my part which can give uneasiness to your Excellency's mind, is your determined perseverance in opposing the advice of the Government which I represent, and whose sentiments I submit to your Excellency, and consequently the removal of that cause is alone in your Excellency's power. Your declaration, at the close of your letter, of entire obedience to the will of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, when compared with your uniform disregard of every counsel which his Lordship has conveyed to you during a period of two years, seems to me to be deserving of reflection.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Having now concluded those remarks on the whole of your Excellency's letter conveying a complaint against myself, which I propose transmitting to the Government, I submit them, in the spirit of candour, for your Excellency's perusal in the first instance, that if your Excellency wish to reply, you may be furnished with the best means of doing so by considering the purport of my remarks.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAYLIE,
Resident.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c. Fort-William.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

My Lord :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 4th instant to your Lordship in Council's address, I have now the honour of transmitting to you a copy and translation of a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, in answer to the statement which I submitted on the subject of his Excellency's complaint contained in his letter to your Lordship under date the 1st instant.

2. It was my original intention to have abstained from further correspondence with the Vizier on the subject of his letter to your Lordship, and after submitting a copy of his answer to my statement, with such remarks as the tenor of it might suggest to me, for your Lordship in Council's decision, to have awaited the communication of that decision to his Excellency directly or to myself, before I should address him again on any subject whatever, unless it were of a nature so urgent as could not with propriety be postponed till I should receive your Lordship's instructions.

3. But the general tenor and the manner of his Excellency's letter to my address, and particularly some of the doctrines which are stated and supported in that letter, seemed so novel and extraordinary to my judgment, that I could not, consistently with my duty, refrain from submitting to his Excellency my sentiments on the nature of the degradation which he has thus attempted to impose on the high official station of your Lordship's representative at his Court.

4. A copy and translation of the letter which I have deemed it to be my duty to address to his Excellency the Vizier on this occasion are submitted for your Lordship's perusal, and supersede a repetition of the remarks on the subject of the complaint against myself, which it was originally my intention to have conveyed in a direct address to your Lordship.

5. With a reference to the exceptionable manner of writing which the Vizier began to adopt in the latter years of the Residency of the late Colonel Scott at Lucknow, and has gradually brought to a pitch which is, in my judgment, highly offensive, it may be necessary to account to your Lordship in Council for my having omitted to notice it before, and thus affording an opportunity to the Vizier, not only to persist in and to aggravate his own exceptionable style, but to be the first to complain, however groundlessly, of a want of respect upon my part.

6. The

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

6. The causes and motives of this omission, by my predecessors as well as myself, are to be traced in the intricacies and delicacies, as I may term them, of the forms of Persian correspondence as practised in this country; in an imperfect knowledge, or a disregard of those peculiar intricacies by Colonel Scott; the total ignorance of them by Colonel Collins; the gradual and imperceptible advantage of those circumstances which has been taken by his Excellency the Vizier; the establishment of nearly the present form of correspondence on the part of his Excellency before my arrival at his Court, and my natural desire to conciliate, and to refrain from serious remonstrance regarding matters of mere form, till they became of considerable importance; combined with a hope, I confess, that the model which I thought proper to adopt for my own letters to his Excellency, being that of the earlier periods of his, and of the whole of his brother's administration, would have ultimately answered the purpose, by recalling to his Excellency's mind what was proper and becoming on his part, with a reference to the official rank of the Representative of the British Government at his Court, which in every other instance, save that of letter-writing, he has generally most strictly observed.

7. With a view to elucidate the remarks on this branch of the subject of his Excellency's letter to my address, which are contained in my answer to that letter, and now submitted to your Lordship, I shall transmit to the Persian department copies of a number of letters from the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, addressed to Mr. Ives and Mr. Lumsden, and of letters from those gentlemen to the late Nawaub, with copies of a number of letters from the present Vizier to Mr. Lumsden and Colonel Scott, and from those gentlemen to his Excellency; a comparison of the style and manner of which with those of his Excellency's recent letters to me, will enable the Persian Secretary to report to your Lordship in Council on the general accuracy of my remarks; and after receiving the report of that officer, it will remain for your Lordship in Council to decide whether the present forms of correspondence adopted by his Excellency the Vizier to your Lordship's representative at his Court, and the submissive and derogatory style which his Excellency requires from the Resident, shall be continued, or the less exceptionable practice of former times, and of the early part of his Excellency's Government, shall be resumed and established for the future.

8. With a reference to the more essential degradation of the rank and official influence of the Resident at the Court of the Vizier, which his Excellency has very plainly expressed his design of imposing on me in the concluding paragraphs of his letter, I deem it to be totally unnecessary to intrude on your Lordship's time, by submitting any other remarks than those which are stated in my reply.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
11th January 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 7th January 1813.)

Your writing submitted on the 28th of Zeelhijj (2d January), containing an answer to the contents of a letter from the Presence to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, dated the 26th of that month (31st December), has been perused. You have submitted, that "although the causes of the displeasure of the British Government and your own, namely, my uniform opposition to the just views of the Government and total disregard of your advice, be admitted and established, yet you are totally unconscious," &c. (to the end.)

In reply to which, the case is this: Your failure in the observances of respect for the Presence began before the discussions to which you allude took place; and, on the part of the Presence, no alteration in the manner and style of writing has ever been made, as the *shookhas* (mandates) of the Presence and your writings of the former and present times, compared with each other and with the writings of former Residents in your office, will show. If you look at them you will perceive the difference, and the Presence has no occasion to explain it.

After

After acknowledging your dissatisfaction, you submit that "you are at a loss to conceive to which of your recent letters I have been pleased to allude as a cause of complaint, and beg to be informed," &c. The case is this: From the representations contained in your writing submitted on the 3d of Jemadec-sance 1226 (27th June 1811), the manner of your respect for the Presence is apparent, and of the representations in your writing containing the deposition of Hyder Bukhsh, what was disagreeable to the mind of the Presence has been stated in my letter to the Governor-General. Your writing in answer to that letter, too, contains a manner of respect for the Presence which is obvious.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

The speech which you submit in denial of your prevention of the hunting excursion was made last year. But as you must have accompanied the Presence on the hunting excursion, the answer to the Governor-General's letter might have been written there as well as here. And on one occasion before, last year, when the Presence intended moving to Nawaubgunge, you prevented it, and after all the preparations for the hunting excursion were made according to custom, till you obtained a promise of an early return, you did not approve of the march of the Presence: nay, further, after our return, when Lucknow was enlightened by the Presence, and the Presence was afflicted with rheumatic pains in the joints, to a degree which rendered speaking or breathing unpleasant; when in that state the Presence removed for change of air to Beebeepore, at so short a distance from the palace of Furhu Bukhsh as to be no more than a change of residence, even this movement was disagreeable to you. If the cause of your disapproval was merely the difficulty of transacting business or obtaining answers to your requests, the distance was of no consequence whatever, and in a state of sickness what could be done?

In reply to your representation of "your having submitted an abstract of the orders of the Government dated the 8th of May and 23d of October, regarding the employment of the British troops, to the Presence, at our conference of Saturday the 14th of Zeehijj (19th December), and your having applied those orders and their consequences from motives of friendship, and your considering those orders to be the true cause of this complaint from the Presence," the case is this: At the conference abovementioned, the two papers described were taken, and regarding them not a word was issued from the Presence; but, with regard to other matters, the expressions which you submitted to the Presence were, in the opinion of the Presence, clearly demonstrative of anger and disrespect. You admit your application of the words "necessarily removing the veil," &c.; and after this admission, what more need be written from the Presence?

With regard to your representation, that it was "the province of the British Government, in its character of guarantee, to arbitrate and decide on all contested points," &c. What has been already repeatedly said upon this subject shall never be departed from with my consent. If done contrary to my consent, you are at liberty.

With regard to your complaints at the conference above mentioned "on the case of Mal Tewarree, naick, and other sepoys and dependants of the British Government, and the support of the Presence to the statements of the Aumils, and a denial of the means of investigation," the case is this: It was never the wish nor desire of the Presence, that the complaints of those sepoys should not be justly decided, or that their investigation should be delayed; far less that the rights of the poor should be lost, or the statements of the Aumils confirmed. But the cause of the delay is this: that the sepoys will not agree to the statements of the Seghadars (revenue officers) and persons versant in the business, nor will they submit their complaints to arbitration, nor be satisfied with anything short of the accomplishment of their own views. Reflect that conversation on business does not require anger, nor wrath, nor forgetfulness of the respect for situation, and that the expressions which you submitted in the Presence, as tending to diminish the authority of the Presence, clearly indicated anger and wrath, since the plan which you propose of deputing Ameens and Chupprassies to diminish the power and authority of the Presence can never be agreed to by the Presence, as has been already repeatedly signified.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

With regard to the dismissal of Hyder Bukhsh, the method which you have adopted has never been seen in any country. Notwithstanding your promise to make him pay any demands of the State that might be established against him, without investigating the statement of Fyzoolla and Gholam Mohummud, or confronting them with him, you permitted him of your own accord to depart. And, with a reference to your statement of his being a British subject, the case is this: that he left the purgunnah of Corah, which you represent to be his country, long before it was ceded to the Company, and became the slave of Almass Alec Khan deceased, whose property he was at his death, and by whom in this city he was educated and brought up. It would, therefore, have been becoming your friendship, to have confronted him, in the first place, with the two persons above mentioned, and called on him for an answer to their assertions; and in the case of nothing being proved against him, you might then have applied to the Presence for his leave to depart, instead of declining to confront him with his accusers or to attend to the commands of the Presence, and using angry words on the subject of his departure, which did not become you in any degree, and which you yourself acknowledge your having used.

Again, with regard to your representation, that "a manifest difference may arise between the orders of the Presence on any subject and that of a poor person," &c. (to the end). The case is this: that the very thing which is disagreeable to the mind of the Presence you yourself have acknowledged; nay, you add that this cause of complaint by the Presence may often happen again; and, if so, what respect for the Presence can remain? Your application even of the word "Complaint," with a reference to the Presence, is contrary to the due observances of respect to which the Presence is entitled.

Independently of the case of Hyder Bukhsh, there are many other affairs of the Presence still unsettled: and with regard to your submission of the denial of Fukhur-ood-Deen (Mirza Jafer), of his having ever seen the arzee of Hyder Bukhsh, what was signified from the Presence to Mirza Jafer, and what he submitted in answer, shall be written in detail from the Presence, on the condition of his swearing on the Koran in confirmation or denial of what shall be written.

In reply to your observation, that "my professions of entire obedience to the will of the Governor-General, when compared with," &c. (to the end). There is no manner of doubt whatever of the obedience of the Presence to the Governor-General, for the Governor-General is the benefactor of the Presence; and if the accomplishment of a matter be beyond the authority and power of the Presence, writing a true statement of the case to a benefactor is in no way inconsistent with obedience. What more shall be written? 3d of Mohur-rum 1228.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 8th January 1813.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's gracious letter of yesterday's date, and have carefully perused its contents.

The tenor and substance of the letter, in my candid opinion, are such that I might safely submit it to the Government without a single comment or remark, and rely on the justice of the Government for a judgment of absolute acquittal of the charges of disrespect and intemperance which your Excellency has preferred against me. Yet a sense of my duty to your Excellency, as well as to the Government which I represent, my wish for a solemn decision on the whole of the merits of this complaint, from even the remote period to which your Excellency has now referred for the grounds of it, and some other considerations which will appear in the sequel of this letter, induce me to trespass on your time with the following detailed observations.

At

At a very early period after my arrival at your Excellency's Court, the forms of correspondence then recently adopted on the part of your Excellency to the Resident, and seemingly expected by your Excellency from him, seemed to me to be deserving of most serious attention and revisal. I looked back to the records of my office for the forms of letter-writing on the part of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah to the Resident, and found them to be as different from your Excellency's as they are from the mandates of the Emperor of Delhi to his Majesty's subjects and servants, which latter your Excellency's *mandates*, rather than letters, to the Representative of the British Government at your Court exactly resembled, and do resemble at this day. I compared your Excellency's letters to Mr. Lumsden, and a few of those to Colonel Scott, and their letters to your Excellency, with your Excellency's letters to Colonel Collins and myself, and found them to be totally different from each other. Being, of course, mortified and surprised at the change, I submitted my sentiments regarding it in the most delicate terms to your Excellency, through the medium of my confidential-servant, and was referred to the correspondence with Colonel Collins for the only satisfaction that could be given.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Upon this I determined, perhaps improperly, though my motive could not be misconstrued, to abstain from any formal remonstrance to your Excellency, on the apparent want of consideration in correspondence, which classed the British Resident at your Excellency's Court on a footing of rank with your Excellency's subjects and servants, and to content myself with framing my own letters to your Excellency on the model of those of Mr. Lumsden and Colonel Scott, which had never been objected to by your Excellency in the times of those respectable officers, and indeed has never been questioned by your Excellency with me till the date of your letter to the Governor-General. A number of no less than thirty letters from the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowla to Mr. Ives and Mr. Lumsden, from those gentlemen to the late Nawaub, from your Excellency to Mr. Lumsden and Colonel Scott, and from the last-mentioned officer to your Excellency, are now submitted for your inspection, and copies of them shall be forwarded to the Government; and I shall leave it to your Excellency's justice and candour to decide, in the first place, whether the least respectful of all the letters from me to your Excellency, during a period of five years, which form the subject of your present complaint, do not exceed the most respectful of the enclosed, in every point to which your Excellency has alluded; and, secondly, whether the style and language of all your Excellency's letters to me, more particularly of that which is now before me, do not more resemble the *mandates* of the King of Delhi to his servants, than the letters of any of your Excellency's august predecessors, or your own, to the former Residents or representatives of the British Government at Lucknow.

Under all the circumstances which are stated, and with a particular reference to your Excellency's remark, that "no alteration in the manner and style of writing has ever been made by your Excellency," I deem it now to be my duty to solicit from your Excellency's justice, as I shall submit to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, in vindication of the dignity of his Lordship's Government, that the style and manner of writing to the Resident at your Excellency's court, which was practised by your august brother and by your Excellency during the time of Mr. Lumsden, be resorted to and scrupulously observed for the future, and that all the exceptionable expressions and omissions which have subsequently crept into use be hereafter withheld and attended to.

A copy and translation of my letter of the 3d Jemadee-oos-sanee 1226 (27th June 1811), on the subject of reform, to which your Excellency has now been pleased to object, as well as copies and translations, indeed, of all my letters on every subject of importance, are already before the Government, and have passed the ordeal of its approbation.

Regarding my prevention of your Excellency's hunting excursion last year, your Excellency has admitted the truth of my declaration. With regard to the circumstances of your intended movement to Nawaub-gunge, my soliciting a promise of your early return to Lucknow from a former hunting excursion, and my dissatisfaction with your movement to Beebeepore, I cannot, at this distance of time, sufficiently charge my memory to submit a detail of them to your
Excellency.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Excellency. The grounds of my surprise and concern at your sudden departure to Beebeepore are submitted, and fully explained, in my letter of the 27th of June 1811, already referred to: but, with a reference to all those complaints, I may surely be permitted to plead, that your Excellency's gracious letter of the 9th of July 1811 should, in justice and candour, supersede any further explanation on my part. The words of that letter are as follow: "Reposing confidence, as I do, in your friendship, and having no other real and sympathizing friend than yourself, whose kindness could give consolation and confidence to my mind, I therefore write to desire, &c.....In the whole world I have not one such a friend as yourself."

Your Excellency's repeated reference to the substance of our conference of Saturday the 19th of December, as demonstrative in your opinion of anger, can require no other reply than a solemn declaration on my part, which I am ready to repeat upon oath, that friendship and conciliation, with the accomplishment of the just views of the Government, were the sole objects of my discourse, and that anger and wrath, or disrespect, were as far from my manner at the time as they are at the present moment. My application of the words "removing the veil from your Excellency's conduct," to the orders of Government, dated the 8th of May and 23d of October, was, in my judgment, correct, respectful, and friendly in the extreme.

Your Excellency's repeated refusal to admit of the mediation and arbitration of the British Government between her Highness the Begum and yourself, cannot surely form a necessary obstacle to the Government's continuing to urge the just settlement of her Highness's claims, or the redress of her manifest grievances; but as this question has been finally referred to the Government, I have nothing further to offer regarding it.

The question of the redress of the grievances of our sepoys and other dependants, may also be passed over without remark. It is my firm and decided opinion, that till regular courts of justice be established throughout your Excellency's dominions, for the investigation of all complaints, as recommended by the British Government, by your Excellency's benefactor and friend the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, our subjects and dependants, in common with, but in perhaps a greater degree than, your own, must be subjected to distress and oppression; and that the only alternative which exists for the redress of the grievances of our sepoys and other dependants, is that which I submitted to your Excellency at our conference of the 19th of December, and which your Excellency seems disposed to resist.

With a reference to the case of Hyder Bukhsh, I certainly promised to your Excellency, and do now repeat the promise, to procure the liquidation of every just demand of your Excellency's Government against him. He was dismissed to Corah with your Excellency's declared consent. A rahdaree dustuck, in the terms of that under the Governor-General's signature and seal, was regularly applied for to your Excellency, nay, was promised on the 28th ultimo by your Excellency to me, and was ultimately refused to my servant Ameer Hyder, with a declaration from your Excellency that it was unnecessary, and that Hyder Bukhsh, like Gholam Reza Khan, might proceed unmolested without a dustuck. Your Excellency has omitted any notice of the Governor-General's passport to this person, which was uniformly, in my judgment, decisive of the question of his departure. If the statement referred to by your Excellency of Fyzoolla and Gholam Mohummud had been that of a debt due to your Government by Hyder Bukhsh, instead of a vague assertion of his appropriating the wealth of Almass, it might have deserved, and would have formed the subject of, investigation in the manner which your Excellency has now for the first time suggested: but when I beg your Excellency to recollect that Hyder Bukhsh has an acquittance from Almass, and that the whole of the property of that Aumil has been locked up under your Excellency's seals since the moment of his death, and guarded in the strictest manner by the Honourable Company's sepoys and your own, it cannot be a matter of surprise that I should have been satisfied with the deposition of Hyder Bukhsh, in refutation of a charge so extraordinary. But, with a view to your Excellency's satisfaction, I now entreat you to be convinced that Hyder Bukhsh is still answerable in every respect, as

before,

before, for your Excellency's just demands, and amenable to the regular investigation of the charge which has been preferred by Fyzoola and Gholam Mommud, and which the accredited agent of Hyder Bukhsh is now in attendance to answer; nay, that he may be recalled, if necessary, at any time, with the permission of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, to answer to such charges and demands as your Excellency may wish to bring against him.

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Consultation,
22 Jan. 1873.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

My opinion is still, I must confess, what has already been submitted to your Excellency on the question of his being a native subject of the Honourable Company's Government, as being a landholder in the district of Corah, where the bulk of his property is situated and his family have always resided. But be that question as it may, I have your Excellency's repeated authority for submitting, that no Mussulman can be a slave, and that he is entitled to every privilege of a free subject as well as of a dependant of the British Government, although your Excellency seemed disposed to refuse him any of those privileges by detaining him forcibly at Lucknow: a circumstance, surely, more unprecedented, than my submitting the most urgent application for his release. That this application was accompanied with expressions of anger or disrespect, I most solemnly and sincerely disavow.

From your Excellency's next observation, that "the submission, on my part, of a difference in point of fact between any of your Excellency's statements and that of another person," in other words, "of an opinion different from your own, is the very thing which is disagreeable to you;" that, "I have acknowledged this fault," nay, "predicted its future occurrence," and "that this is incompatible with respect;" it would seem to my judgment to follow as your Excellency's wish and expectation, that the rank of the British Resident at your Court should be that of the lowest of your subjects: that he should have no opinion of his own, nor even the right of submitting the sentiments of his Government to your Excellency, unless in perfect coincidence with yours, and demonstrative of the most profound submission to your will. If such be, indeed, your Excellency's wish or expectation, and the design of the British Government in maintaining a representative at your Court, it is certainly far from my conception of the nature and duties of my station, and remains to be explained to me by the Government. If even "the use of the word complaint," with a reference to your Excellency's proceedings, be inadmissible on the part of the Resident, the exercise of his functions at Lucknow would seem to me to be completely suspended.

Your Excellency's demand of an oath from Mirza Jafer, who has long voluntarily ceased to be the medium of my communications, and may naturally have forgotten the circumstances to which your Excellency alludes, seems to me to be objectionable on many grounds; but if your Excellency will be pleased to explain the particular points regarding which the deposition of this respectable and highly creditable person is required, I shall consider of the justice and propriety of acquiescing in your Excellency's requisition, and shall submit a reference on the subject to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

Of the sincerity of your Excellency's professions of entire obedience to the will of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, his Lordship in Council himself is the only competent judge.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

The Governor-General in Council deeming it advisable to suspend a reply to the letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Governor-General, of which a translation was enclosed in the Resident's despatch of the 4th instant, until he shall receive a report from the Persian Secretary to the Government on the subject of the documents which Major Baillie states that he has forwarded to the Persian Secretary,

4 T

Ordered,

Bengal Political
Consultations,
23 Jan. 1818.

Ordered, That an extract from the proceedings be sent to the Persian Secretary's Office, and that the Persian Secretary be informed of the desire of his Lordship in Council to receive his report with the least practicable delay.

Ordered, That the following Instructions be addressed to the Resident at Lucknow.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing the translation of a letter addressed to the Governor-General by the Vizier, in which his Excellency charges you with disrespectful and intemperate language and conduct, and renews the expression of his desire to travel.

2. This extraordinary and groundless accusation appeared to the Governor-General in Council to require the decisive interference of Government, in order to vindicate your official conduct and proceedings, to uphold and strengthen the influence of your representative character, and to counteract the evident design of the Vizier in framing the letter to his Lordship's address, viz., to deter the Government from persevering in the prosecution of the objects which have formed the topics of your recent discussions with his Excellency, by accusations against its representative at his Excellency's Court, and by renewing the subject of his travels.

3. The Governor-General in Council was accordingly prepared to address a letter to his Excellency, calculated to effect the important object above stated, when the receipt of your further despatch of the 11th instant, enclosing the continuation of your correspondence with his Excellency, appeared to the Governor-General in Council to render it advisable to take the new and higher ground which the Government was enabled to assume, by the discovery of the improper and indecorous style in which the Vizier himself has of late been accustomed to indulge in his correspondence with the British Resident.

4. It has become necessary to suspend the preparation of an answer to his Excellency's letter, under the different view of the question which, in consequence of the receipt of your last despatch, has been taken by the Governor-General in Council, until a particular report shall be received from the Persian Secretary, founded on your communications to that officer, and on the materials which the records of his office will supply of the several changes which have occurred in the manner of conducting the correspondence between the Vizier and the successive Residents at his Court, the origin of the departure from those forms of respect which were formerly observed both by the present Vizier and his predecessor, and the nature and extent of those deviations from the proper style of address. Such a report is necessary to form the foundation of a grave and official remonstrance with the Vizier on the subject, and of a requisition in the name of the Governor-General, that his Highness will revert to that correct and decorous mode of conducting his correspondence with the British Resident, from which he ought never to have departed. It is not necessary on this account, however, to delay the communication to you of the sentiments of the Governor-General in Council on the subject of your two despatches above referred to.

5. The instructions, which I had received the orders of his Lordship in Council to address to you, on the case of Hyder Bukhsh, not having been despatched when the receipt of your despatch apprized the Governor-General in Council of the actual departure of that person from Lucknow, they have been cancelled; but such of the reflections and observations which arose in the mind of his Lordship in Council on perusing the report of your proceedings in that case as it may be proper that you should still be apprized of, will be included in this despatch.

6. It is not necessary to enter into a particular and minute examination, in this place, of the several charges of intemperate and disrespectful language and conduct brought against you by the Vizier, which have been in general successfully

cessfully refuted in your letter to his Excellency, of which a translation is enclosed in your despatch of the 4th instant. The only exception to this remark is the case of Hyder Bukhsh, above noticed, and which will be adverted to in a subsequent part of this despatch.

7. His Lordship in Council trusts, that the effect of the letter which the Governor-General proposes to address to his Excellency the Vizier will make a suitable impression on his mind, and will both induce him to retract his groundless and injurious imputations against your personal and official character and conduct, and dispose him to pay more regard to the remonstrances and representations which it will be your duty to continue to address to him on various subjects of discussion, and will also effect the immediate re-establishment of the epistolary intercourse between his Excellency and you, on a footing suitable to the rank and dignity of your representative character, upon which the Government is determined to insist.

8. The proposed letter will, moreover, be so framed, as to prepare his Excellency's mind for the renewal of the subject of the reform of his administration and other depending questions, on which the extreme pressure of other business of more immediate urgency has rendered it necessary for the Governor-General in Council to suspend his deliberations, but which will form the subject of an early communication to you.

9. The question of the reform will now be urged, with all the advantage to be derived from the effect which must be produced by the decided interference of the Government on the occasion, which is the immediate subject of this letter. A similar advantage may be expected to be found with respect to the other questions depending with the Vizier, which still remain to be adjusted. On all these points the instances of the Government to the Vizier will be renewed and enforced.

10. It was extremely satisfactory to the Governor-General in Council to find that the departure of Hyder Bukhsh from Lucknow had superseded the necessity of interposing the direct authority of the Government in support of your proceedings in that person's case, as that case involves the very delicate question of the degree in which our interference with the Vizier, in favour of persons of that class, can properly be exercised; and as the view which the Governor-General in Council has taken of it differs materially (although with much reluctance on the part of his Lordship in Council) from yours, I have been directed to enter at some length into a consideration of the whole transaction.

11. The Governor-General in Council is unable to consider Hyder Bukhsh in the light of a British subject, on the ground merely of his having been born and possessing landed property in the Ceded Provinces, since the circumstances of his having been from his infancy resident within the dominions of the Vizier, and employed from an early period of his life in the service of the Government of Oude, combined with the relation in which he stood towards Almass, himself a servant of that State, must, in the judgment of his Lordship in Council, be considered to supersede any claim to the personal privileges and rights of a subject of the Company, which perhaps he might otherwise, but still doubtfully, derive from the possession of lands in a province now belonging to the Company, but formerly to the Vizier, and ceded by the latter, at a period long subsequent to the origin of Hyder Bukhsh's connection with Almass and the Government of Oude.

12. A long course of events and transactions, affecting mutually the interests of the two States, in which a principal part was borne by Almass Alee Khan, had established a sort of relation between the British Government and that person, so much more intimate than generally subsists between the supreme authority of one State and the subject and officer of another, as to afford him a strong claim to our countenance and support, in case he should be exposed to unjust and cruel treatment by his immediate masters; but it was never maintained, that his partial dependence on the British Government derogated from the authority of the Vizier over his subject. After the death of Almass, the Governor-General in Council felt disposed to afford, to a certain extent, similar countenance and favour to his family and dependants, and you were accordingly authorized, by the

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instructions of the 10th of October 1808, above referred to, to interpose in their behalf, by employing the language of representation and remonstrance, in order to divert the Vizier from any measures of harshness and injustice which he might meditate against them. The whole spirit and tenor of those instructions (and, as applicable to any supposed designs to deprive the persons in question of their property, the express letter of them) demonstrate the objection of the Government to the adoption of measures of a more decided character, any right to employ which is disclaimed as inconsistent with the acknowledged prerogatives of the Vizier, and the provisions of treaty.

13. As connected with the personal claim of Hyder Bukhsh to our support, it is proper in this place to observe, that the Governor-General in Council does not consider the grant of a passport under the signature of the Governor-General to form a valid ground for insisting on his being allowed to depart from Lucknow, nor does the grant of that paper place him in the condition of a person enjoying the protection of the British Government, at least in the manner in which you have considered it. In fact, the Governor-General's passport can only become of authoritative force on the entrance of the person holding it, being the subject of another State, within the Honourable Company's territories.

14. By the stipulations of the treaty of 1801, explained and confirmed by the result of the subsequent negotiations between the Marquess Wellesley and the Vizier at Lucknow, the British Government is empowered to offer its advice to the Vizier on all matters connected with the affairs of his Excellency's Government, and the Vizier is bound to act in conformity to the advice of the Government; but this reciprocal obligation must be interpreted by the general spirit and objects of the alliance, and cannot be made the ground of indiscriminate interference on our part in questions between the Vizier and his subjects. It is, indeed, desirable on many grounds of practical expediency, as well as because it is consonant to the general spirit of the treaty, that we should abstain from interposing in cases of inferior importance, as the frequent occurrence of such interposition would be apt, by exciting irritation and discontent, to indispose the Vizier to listen to our remonstrances in affairs of greater magnitude, for which the weight of our authority ought to be reserved. On all these grounds, the Governor-General in Council would have wished that you had not taken up the cause of Hyder Bukhsh so warmly, as your just and natural feeling of compassion for the hardship of his situation, combined with your conviction of his claim to the protection of the British Government, prompted you to do.

15. It cannot be denied, that the character of the Vizier's conduct towards Hyder Bukhsh partakes largely of that capricious and tyrannical exercise of his power, which has unfortunately become habitual to his Excellency, and which appears to afford him peculiar gratification when it is directed against any person who either is, or is reputed to be, an object of the consideration and regard of the British Government.

16. His Lordship in Council fully appreciates the delicacy of your situation, and the difficulty which you must experience in cases in which the limits of interference and forbearance are so inaccurately defined; in avoiding the opposite evils of trenching upon the independent authority of the Vizier on the one hand, and withholding the support of your representative situation from persons looking up to the British Government for protection, on the other. The repeated testimonies which you have received from the Governor-General in Council, of his Lordship's approbation of your conduct in the discharge of the arduous duties of your station, will satisfy your mind that, in forming a judgment of the course which you were called on to pursue in the present affair different from your own, the Governor-General in Council has given the most unqualified credit to the motives of public zeal and of warm and generous feeling which governed your conduct.

17. The part of your proceedings relative to Hyder Bukhsh which proved least satisfactory to Government, was the menace which you held out to the Vizier of affording to Hyder Bukhsh the protection of an escort of sepoys, to enable him to quit the city of Lucknow and his Excellency's dominions. This was the more to be regretted, as it might have placed the Governor-General in Council in the embarrassing

embarrassing dilemma either of withholding his support to the proceedings of an officer high in rank, and in the confidence and esteem of the Government, or of enforcing an act which his judgment could not approve. Fortunately the difficulty is removed, and the question closed, by the departure of Hyder Bukhsh from the city; and all that remains is to express the satisfaction of Government at this termination of the affair, and to intimate to the Vizier that, although Hyder Bukhsh has left his dominions, he will still be liable to be called on to answer any charge or demand which his Excellency may produce against him. You will accordingly take an opportunity of signifying this to the Vizier, at such time and in such manner as you may judge most likely to impress him with a sense of our desire to do impartial justice between his Excellency and an alleged defaulter.

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22 Jan. 1818.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

18. I am directed to observe, that the details of your conferences with the Vizier, at which his Excellency consented to permit Hyder Bukhsh to depart, are not before Government, and that the fact of his departure is only known by the incidental mention of it in your letter to the Vizier, of which a translation accompanied your despatch.

19. The Governor-General in Council is satisfied that the Vizier entertains no intention whatever of putting his plan of travelling in execution. His design in bringing it forward is evidently that stated in a preceding part of this letter, namely, to induce Government to remit its endeavours to obtain his compliance with its requisitions, by leading it to apprehend that he really will put in force his plan of leaving his dominions if he is pressed on any unpleasant subject of negotiation. His expectations of success have probably been encouraged by the great desire which has on former occasions been evinced, to prevail on him to abandon his intention. It is highly desirable, however, that he should be made to understand that Government views it as a matter of indifference; and the Governor-General, therefore, purposes to express the readiness of the British Government to afford every facility to the accomplishment of his Excellency's wishes, requiring no other condition than that he shall make a suitable arrangement for the administration of his Government during his absence.

20. The only arrangement for that purpose which would be satisfactory to the Governor-General in Council, or which could be sanctioned, is that pointed out in the instructions addressed to the late Colonel Scott, under date the 11th November 1802, and which will of course be found among the records of the Residency, viz., "the appointment of a regent, who shall be bound by a specific engagement to regulate all his official proceedings by the advice and recommendation of the British Government, and to adopt all such measures as may be suggested by the Resident, under the authority of that Government, for the prosperity of the country," &c. &c.; in other words, to place the administration virtually in the hands of the British Government. If his Excellency were to consent to such an arrangement, his departure, though certainly an undesirable event even then, would be the less to be regretted, from the opportunity which it would afford of introducing an improved system of administration into his dominions. You will observe, that the condition formerly annexed to our consent to the Vizier's undertaking the proposed journey, viz. that he should previously carry into effect the proposed reform, will not be insisted on; but it will be proper to intimate to the Vizier, that his departure will not cause any relaxation of the endeavours of this Government to accomplish this important object.

21. It is unnecessary, however, in the present stage of the business, to expatiate on this subject. If, contrary to all reasonable expectation, his Excellency should continue to express a desire to travel, the Governor-General in Council will be prepared to take up the whole question.

22. Recurring to the complaint against you contained in the Vizier's letter, the Governor-General in Council remarks, that it is superfluous to state his unabated confidence in your zealous, able, and judicious performance of the arduous duties of your office. His Lordship in Council is satisfied that the

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from Secretary to
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calumnious charges against you are to be ascribed to the displeasure excited in the mind of the Vizier, by your zealous and persevering endeavours to mitigate the rapacious and oppressive system of his Excellency's Government, and to prevail on him to regulate it by the principles of justice, moderation, and good faith.

23. Such further observations as may occur to his Lordship in Council, will be stated to you when his Lordship's proposed letter to the Vizier is transmitted. It does not seem advisable that you should make any communication to the Vizier previously to the delivery of the letter; but it is left to your discretion to apprise his Excellency of your expectation of the early receipt of a reply to the letter which his Excellency addressed to the Governor-General, if you should deem such previous notice to be expedient.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
22d January 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 29th January 1813.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government, in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy and translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, in reply to my communication to his Excellency of the substance of the orders of the Government, conveyed by the Chief Secretary's despatches of the 8th of May and 23d of October last, having reference to the method proposed of employing detachments of the British troops stationed in this country for the apprehension of banditti infesting the Honourable Company's territory and finding refuge in the Vizier's.

2. The transmission of this letter by his Excellency would appear to have been hastened by a communication which I deemed it to be my duty to make to him, in consequence of a letter received from the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, a copy of which, and a translation of my letter to his Excellency on the subject of it, are submitted for the notice of the Government. His Excellency's answer to that letter, a translation of which is enclosed, was conceived in a style which induced me to suspend the orders that I had issued to the commanding officer at Sooltanpore for the seizure of Surnam Sing and his associates, and gave me every reason to expect the immediate accomplishment of this object through the exertions of his Excellency's Aumil.

3. My disappointment in this hope has been aggravated in a peculiar degree by the tenor of his Excellency's reply to my communication of the orders of the Government, in which his Lordship in Council will observe a continued disposition to oppose the just and necessary arrangement suggested for his Excellency's acquiescence, under the flimsy disguise of a declared solicitude, combined with an ineffectual proposition, for the accomplishment of the object in view, by means that have been already repeatedly tried and uniformly found to be unavailing.

4. The attendance of the Vizier's Aumils, or of any of his Excellency's officers, on the commanding officers of detachments of British troops employed in the pursuit of delinquents or fugitives from the British dominions, nay even the previous knowledge by his Excellency's officers of the movement of a British detachment for such a purpose, has been proved, by the uniform experience of ten years, to be the certain cause of failure and disappointment in every instance that has occurred; and the imposition of this provision on a consent which could not be withheld, to the occasional employment of our

troops for the seizure of our rebellious subjects finding refuge in his Excellency's territory, would appear to have no other motive than the defeat of the object in view.

5. His Excellency's resistance or objection to the measure which is now proposed, as founded on the declaration of Lord Cornwallis, seems to me to be totally misplaced, since the proposition from which his Lordship receded was of a nature totally different from that which is here discussed; and, at all events, his Excellency had before him, in the substance of the Chief Secretary's despatch under date the 8th of May last, an exposition so clear and satisfactory of the grounds on which Lord Cornwallis's admission, or rather concession, should now be modified or withdrawn, that his Excellency's recourse to it on this occasion may be justly thought a matter of surprise.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th January 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 9th January 1813.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

Your letter of the 18th December, with translation of a letter from the Secretary to the Government, and translation of former orders which were issued to you, soliciting an answer to your letter to the Presence submitted on the 17th of Ramzaun (25th September), has been perused.

The case is this: The proposal of establishing a military post on the frontier of Pertaubghur, in the dominions of the Presence, for the purpose of apprehending, dispersing, and extirpating marauders, decoits, and plunderers, has been already agreed to, in the shookha of the 11th of Ramzaun (19th September); and it was also written, that this arrangement would be beneficial to both Governments.

On the other hand, the apprehension or punishment of Aman Sing and others, regarding which orders were issued to you from the Presence, has not yet by chance been carried into execution. But let the past be considered as past, for it is not the wish of the Presence to enter into controversy or altercation, and it was merely for the sake of information that the mention of some plan for the apprehension of fugitives from the dominions of the Presence was conveyed in the above shookha, and it is impossible that the Presence should ever have neglected the means of seizing fugitives, rebels, or plunderers, belonging to the British Government. With regard to the apprehension of the rebel Budjha Sing, proclamations have been issued by the Presence, and moochulkas (penal bonds) taken from the Zemindars, agreeably to your suggestions, without the least delay or neglect. A detachment of British troops was also employed for the seizure of the said rebel. The Zemindars who were stated by you to be the partizans and abettors of Budjha Sing, have been apprehended and are still in confinement; therefore the fact of the rebels not being seized can on no principle be ascribed to a want of exertion or inclination on the part of the Presence.

As the happiness and tranquillity of the subjects of both Governments, and the extirpation or seizure of plunderers, marauders, and decoits, to whatever country they belong, have ever been, and are now, the sincere desire of the Presence; and, as it is further the wish of the Presence to satisfy to the utmost extent the Right Honourable the Governor-General, on whose favour and aid the establishment of the full power and authority of the Presence rests; for this cause only the cantonment of a British detachment on the frontier has been agreed to by the Presence: and, if it be necessary to have some horsemen to act in conjunction with the infantry, portions of the cavalry stationed at Pertaubghur may also be employed for that purpose. Nay, further, as the destruction or apprehension of rebels and plunderers is the sincere desire of the Presence, the measure now proposed for this purpose is agreed to by the Presence in the following manner.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from the Vizier.

That whenever the abode of any plunderer or decoit is ascertained to be in a village in the dominions of the Presence, and you may wish to detach a force to apprehend him, you shall first apply for the permission of the Presence to that effect, and then orders shall be immediately issued from the Presence to the Aumil to attend the commanding officer of the detachment and obey his orders in the execution of this service. Or, if you entertain a suspicion that the Aumil, through connivance with the plunderers, is likely to acquaint them of the movement of the troops, and enable them to escape; in this case an order to the Aumil shall be issued merely to the following effect, *viz.* "That an English officer with a detachment is proceeding in such a direction, for the accomplishment of a certain object, and that he or his Naib must accompany that officer and obey all his commands." Again: if it be wished, with a view to the apprehension of a particular offender, that the detachment employed on this service shall continue constantly in the pursuit, and never relinquish it until the service be accomplished, in this case, on your representing the circumstance to the Presence, permission for the employment of the detachment shall at once be given by the Presence, in such terms as that, until the object in view be accomplished, there shall be no occasion to ask permission from the Presence a second time. But the Aumil or his Naib shall continue in attendance on the commanding officer so long as the detachment may be employed; and, in consideration of the friendship subsisting between the two States, the commanding officer of the English detachment must protect the subjects of the Presence against injury to their cultivated fields, by marching over them in the same manner as is practised in the Company's provinces. If it be proved to you that any of the subjects or Zemindars of the Presence afford assistance or protection to rebels or marauders, and you represent this to the Presence, the offending person shall be seized and punished, or expelled, and his zemindary shall be sold by auction.

On an occasion, many years ago, when the Marquess Wellesley proposed that the British troops should enter the dominions of the Presence, in pursuit of rebels and fugitives from the British territory, and carry them away, and that in like manner the troops of the Presence might enter the British territories in pursuit of defaulters and others, to apprehend them; this proposal was rejected by the Presence, and shortly after this Colonel Collins submitted a representation to the Presence by order of the Governor-General, Marquess Cornwallis, an extract from which is transmitted for your perusal. Now that measures have been sanctioned for the seizure of delinquents and fugitives from the British territory, in the manner above explained, do you inform the Presence, through friendship, of the measures proposed to be adopted for the seizure of fugitives from this country, since the due arrangement of the affairs of the Presence is a necessary duty on your part.

Enclosure.

Extract (above alluded to) from a Letter from the Secretary to Government addressed to Colonel Collins, dated the 12th August 1805.

"You will accordingly take an early opportunity of signifying to the Vizier that the British Government suggested that arrangement to his Excellency's consideration, under a conviction that the benefit of its adoption would be experienced by his Excellency's Government, as well as by the Government of the Company's contiguous territories, and that it was not calculated to trench, in the slightest degree, upon his Excellency's rights and independence. That the British Government fully admits his Excellency's right to withhold his concurrence in the proposed arrangement, and that it is not the intention of the Governor-General to urge his Excellency's concurrence against his decided aversion to the adoption of that arrangement."

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Major John Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Elahabad.

1. I have the honour to acquaint you that I have received information that Surnam Sing, one of the banditti who has infested this district, is traced, with about thirty followers, to the village of Buhia on the right bank of the Goomtee, about three coss above Sooltanpore, Oude; and that the Talookadar of this village (Bukhtawar Sing, of the Rajkoomar caste) is related to Kishen Sing (another of the same banditti) by marriage, who therefore harbours and protects these offenders.

2. I beg to suggest to you, that you adopt measures with a view to furnish me with authority to apply to the commanding officer at Sooltanpore to proceed to the apprehension of any of the banditti whom I may send people to point out; the present moment, whilst Lieutenant Ellison's detachment is out, appearing to me the most favourable for our best and united efforts to extirpate this horde of depredators.

I have, &c.

Zilla Elahabad,
31st December 1812.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 5th January 1813.)

Letter
from Resident at
Hyderabad.

I have the honour of submitting to your Excellency a translation of a letter received from Mr. Fortescue, Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad. The spirit and tenor of the orders of Government to me, which were recently communicated to your Excellency, both verbally and in writing, cannot have escaped your recollection. In pursuance of the orders referred to, as it is established by Mr. Fortescue's letter that the marauder, Surnam Sing, and his associates are now concealed in the village of Buhia, in the zemindary of Bukhtawar Sing, where they are protected by that Zemindar, if your Excellency conceive that your orders to the Aumil of Sooltanpore will produce the apprehension of the marauder, or his detention in the village abovementioned till the British troops can arrive to apprehend him, I suggest that those orders be issued, in order that, if possible, the accomplishment of this important object be effected through the exertions of your officers, for the satisfaction and gratification of our Government. But, with a view to greater precaution, I shall instruct the commanding officer at Sooltanpore to detach a part of his force for the seizure of the marauder in question.

I further propose to your Excellency, in compliance with the desire of the Magistrate, that a general order be issued to Colonel Kyan, to apprehend such other fugitives from the Honourable Company's territory as the Magistrate's spies may point out.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 6th January 1813.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

Your letter submitted yesterday, with a translation of Mr. Fortescue's letter, stating "the abode of Surnam Sing in the village of Buhia," &c., (to the end) has been perused.

The apprehension of those marauders is desired by the Presence, and a plan for this purpose, which has been devised, shall be written to you the day after tomorrow. You are, therefore, required to suspend issuing any orders to the commanding officer, until the plan and manner of apprehending those marauders be adjusted.

When the manner is adjusted you may write.

From the same, of the same date.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Your letter, stating that you had suspended your instructions to the commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore, &c. has been perused.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Jan. 1813.

Immediately on the perusal of your letter, the most positive orders were issued from the Presence to the Aumil of Sooltanpore for the apprehension of Surnam Sing.

A true translation :

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 15th January, with the several documents stated to be enclosed in it, and to communicate to you the following resolutions, which the unaccommodating conduct of the Vizier on the subject to which your despatch relates, has compelled the Governor-General in Council to adopt.

2. The conditions which the Vizier has thought proper to annex to his consent to the employment of the British troops stationed within his territories for the apprehension of banditti infesting the Honourable Company's adjoining provinces and finding refuge in the Vizier's country, demonstrate either the absence of any cordial desire on his Excellency's part to co-operate with the Company in repressing so great an evil, and depriving the offenders of the shelter and support they now find in his territories, or some unwarranted and offensive suspicion and jealousy respecting the object this Government may have in view in the proposed plan, the nature and grounds of which his Excellency should be called upon to avow distinctly, and to substantiate, if he can, by some satisfactory proof.

3. The almost invariable failure of every attempt to secure offenders in which his Excellency's officers have had any share, leaves no room to hope that they will be more successful in future ; and his Lordship in Council is concerned to declare, that he can ascribe his Excellency's conduct in insisting on a mode of proceeding, of the inefficacy of which experience has afforded the strongest proof, to no motive consistent with friendship or sincerity.

4. Under a deliberate conviction of the truth of this proposition, it has now become the duty of the British Government, after one more attempt to obtain his Excellency's co-operation, to resort to the only means which remain to secure the territory and subjects of the Honourable Company from the evils to which they are exposed, by the weakness, treachery, and corruption of the Vizier's officers, namely, by the employment of the troops stationed within his Excellency's dominions, as often as occasions for employing them on this species of service may arise, without reference to his Excellency's authority.

5. His Lordship in Council has accordingly resolved to authorize the officers commanding posts and detachments within the territory of Oude, on the receipt of an application, either from you or from the Magistrates of the neighbouring districts, accompanied by certain information of the hiding places of public offenders, to detach the troops under their command for the apprehension of the persons so pointed out, without any communication with the officers of the local government.

6. It is judged proper to limit this authority to cases in which the information is precise and authentic, as any such movements of the troops on uncertain grounds, would afford some countenance to those objections to the measure of employing them on the service in question, which are now so entirely destitute of force or plausibility.

7. With this limitation, then, you are desired to furnish the commanding officers with authority and instructions to the foregoing effect, transmitting a copy of your instructions for the information of Government, and to make the necessary communications to the Magistrates of the adjacent districts in the Company's territory.

8. As it would on all accounts, however, be desirable that the measures now determined on should be taken in concert with the Vizier, it will be proper for you, previously to issuing the instructions in question, to apprize his

his Excellency of the substance of the present orders, and make another attempt to obtain his assent to the arrangement, and his cordial co-operation in carrying it into effect. It may be proper, on this occasion, to recall to his attention the representations which you conveyed to him under the instructions of the 8th May and 23d of October, pointing out to him that the measure now taken falls far short of the exercise of our unquestionable rights, which would entitle us not only to employ the force within the country for the apprehension of robbers and murderers, but under the many ineffectual applications to his Excellency for the same purpose, to march the troops across the frontier in order to effect that object. Our preference of the former measure may be instanced as a strong proof of the moderation of the British Government, and its desire to accomplish this just and legitimate object by the means least repugnant to his Excellency's feelings.

9. You will again press upon him the explanation of Lord Cornwallis's declaration, contained in Mr. Edmonstone's despatch of the 8th of May, exposing the futility of his attempt to pervert it into an entire abandonment of our right to correct those evils for which no remedy can be obtained from his Excellency's own Government.

10. It will not be inappropriate to the present purpose, to exhibit the contrast between his Excellency's conduct and that of the States in alliance or friendship with the British Government. The enclosed extract from a despatch from the Resident at Hyderabad will enable you to explain the cordial and effectual co-operation afforded by the Government of his Highness the Nizam, for the purpose of seizing or destroying marauders who plunder the Company's territories and find refuge in those of the Nizam.

11. The recent proceedings of Scindiah's Government, and the exertions of the Maharajah, between whom and the British Government no other relation than that of peace and friendship subsists, in effecting the apprehension of the banditti who attacked Mr. Halhed in Sindouse, have probably come to your knowledge, and will afford another, and even stronger ground of representation to the Vizier, whose much more intimate connection and intercourse with the British Government would naturally have led to the expectation of a very different result of any comparison between his conduct and that of other princes, in instances so nearly affecting the interests of the British Government.

12. The enclosed extracts from the recent correspondence on this subject with the Resident at the court of Dowlut Rao Scindiah, will enable you to state the transaction in a clear and authentic manner.

13. His Lordship in Council hopes that, by a solemn representation to the foregoing effect, accompanied by a communication of the positive resolution of the Governor-General in Council, as notified in this dispatch, you may succeed in your endeavours to prevail on the Vizier to withdraw his opposition to the arrangement above adverted to; and in that case, the several orders, both to the British officers and to his Excellency's Aumils and others, will be issued in concert with his Excellency. If unhappily, however, his Excellency shall continue to refuse or evade a compliance, you will proceed without further delay to carry into effect the instructions contained in the fifth paragraph of this letter.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
29th January 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th February 1813.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government, in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 15th ultimo, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government, the enclosed copies and translations of three letters which have more recently passed on that subject between his Excellency the Vizier and me.

2. In

Bengal Political
Consultations
29 Jan. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Feb. 1813.

2. In the event of my receiving an unfavourable answer from his Excellency to my letter of the 30th ultimo, I solicit the favour of your informing me, whether or not it be the pleasure of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that the instructions suggested by the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, in the second paragraph of his letter of the 31st of December, to my address, be issued to the commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore, without further reference to the Vizier, as prescribed by the Chief Secretary's despatch of the 23d October last.

Lucknow,
2d February 1813.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 15th January 1813.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of the 9th instant, in answer to mine of the 18th ultimo.

As the whole of the contents of this letter are in direct opposition to the arrangement proposed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, as explained in my letter of the 12th of September last (4th Ramzaun 1227), and to the orders of Government received by me, and submitted to your Excellency in my letter of the 19th ultimo; and as it is the decided opinion of the Government, as well as my own, proceeding on the experience of a period of ten years, that the co-operation of your Excellency's Aumils with the commanding officers of British troops employed in the pursuit of delinquents or fugitives from our dominions, nay, even the previous knowledge by your Excellency's Aumils of the movement of a British detachment for such a purpose, must prove the certain cause of failure and disappointment in the accomplishment of the object in view; in addition to which it should be remembered, that the proposal now offered for your Excellency's acquiescence has been induced not merely by the negligence of your Excellency's officers, or their connivance with the delinquents in question, but by the apparent and established inefficacy of all the measures which your Excellency has hitherto adopted for the apprehension of those marauders, in other words, by your Excellency's disinclination or inability to redress the injuries of which we have so long and so justly complained, and which the experience of ten years has proved to be unsusceptible of redress, by any other means than those now suggested for your acquiescence: under all these circumstances, it is, of course, with the deepest concern that I feel myself called upon to report to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, your Excellency's ultimate rejection of the just and unobjectionable arrangement which his Lordship in Council proposed, and to submit for his Lordship's perusal, in the correspondence that has recently passed, the apparently frivolous grounds on which your Excellency's rejection has proceeded.

I request that your Excellency will inform me whether or not the Aumil of Sooltanpore has obeyed your Excellency's orders for the seizure of the marauder, Surnam Sing; and if not, I again submit to your Excellency the propriety of your sanctioning my orders to the commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore, in the terms which were formerly suggested.

The original nature and tendency of the late Governor-General, Marquess Cornwallis's, concession to your Excellency, as conveyed in his orders to Colonel Collins, and the just and obvious grounds on which that concession should now be modified or altered, have been already fully explained to you in the abstract of the orders of Government under date the 8th May last, which I submitted to your Excellency in writing, at our conference of the 19th ultimo.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 23d January 1813.)

Bengal Political
Consultations.
11 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Your letter, submitted on the 15th instant, in answer to the shookha of the Presence dated the 9th, stating that "the whole of the contents of the shookha were in direct opposition to the measures proposed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General," &c. has been perused.

The case is this: what has been written from the Presence is in conformity with the terms of the treaty. The sole wish of the Presence is to retain full power and authority in my own country; and the seizure of fugitives and marauders, which is the sincere desire of the Presence, may be accomplished in the manner which the Presence has pointed out.

In answer to what has been submitted by you, that "the suggestion of the measures proposed has been induced, not merely by the neglect and inattention of my officers in the seizure of delinquents, but by the apparent inefficacy of the means adopted hitherto for that purpose by the Presence," &c.

The case is: That in the event of the British troops being employed on this service, with the consent of the Presence, neglect and inattention on the part of the Aumils can no longer be an obstacle to success. And with a reference to the case of Surnam Sing, the arzee of Gholaum Hoosein, Aumil of Sooltanpore, in answer to a shookha from the Presence, has already been sent for your information.

In reply to your request of being informed of the sentiments of the Presence, regarding your issuing orders to the commanding officer of the troops at Sooltanpore, in the terms suggested by the Magistrate of Elahabad; my wish on this subject is still the same, which has already been made known to you.

And with a reference to what you have stated "respecting the orders issued by the late Governor-General, Marquess Cornwallis, to Colonel Collins," &c. As many important affairs are conducted agreeably to the treaty, and the Presence has confidence in its tenor and contents, which might be shaken in other instances, also, by a departure from it on the present occasion, therefore it is better to adhere to it. But the Presence is adverse to long discussions, which are highly disagreeable; and therefore, if, through your friendship, this matter can be settled in the way the Presence wishes, it is well.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written 30th January 1813.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have the honour of submitting to your Excellency a translation of a letter which I have received from Mr. Fortescue, the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad.

The failure of the apprehension of Surnam Sing and his associates, in consequence of the suspension, at your Excellency's request, of the orders which I had issued in the first instance to Colonel Kyan, and the improbability, or rather the impossibility of the seizure of the above offender, or any other, save by the means which our Government has suggested, must now be as apparent to your Excellency as they have been made manifest to me by the experience of several years; while, on the other hand, your Excellency's apprehension of a loss of power or authority, by your acquiescence in the proposal of the Government, detailed in its orders to me, of which your Excellency has been furnished with a copy, must appear, on mature consideration, to your Excellency, as well as to me, to be totally imaginary and groundless.

To my judgment there is not a single remark, far less an argument, in your Excellency's letter on this subject of the 23d instant that could require consideration or reply.

With a reference to what your Excellency has written, that "your proposal is agreeable to treaty:" there is surely no provision in the treaty, nor in the orders

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11 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

orders issued by Lord Cornwallis, which can possibly militate against the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council's recent proposal to your Excellency for the employment of British troops, already stationed within your territory, in the only manner that can render their services effectual for the apprehension or suppression of marauders.

Nay, on the contrary, Lord Cornwallis's instructions to the Resident at your Excellency's Court, under which he desisted from urging you on the point of the pursuit of marauders by our troops from the ceded territory, proceeded on the obvious supposition, and indeed on the express provision, that our troops in your Excellency's dominions should perform the service effectually, and should accomplish the object in view; and, under these circumstances, it is obvious that your Excellency's continued objection to the only practicable means of the accomplishment of the object in view, may be very fairly ascribed to a desire for the protraction of those injuries which our Government has so justly complained of, and called upon your Excellency to remove.

The whole of our former correspondence on this subject having been already submitted to the Government, whose final orders I have reason shortly to expect, I might have awaited the communication of those orders ere I addressed your Excellency again; yet, in the spirit of cordial friendship, and with a view to the preservation of harmony, I entreat your acquiescence once more in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's proposal.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Magistrate at
Elahabad.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th, together with its enclosure in the Persian Language from his Excellency the Vizier, detailing the measures adopted under his orders for the apprehension of Surnam Sing, and regret to observe, that the plan followed was ill calculated to effect the object intended.

2. It would seem obvious, that previous, open, and systematic preparations for proceeding to the village, without a guide or a person to point out Surnam Sing, who is always on his guard, afford but little prospect of success, whilst, on the other hand, the informers whom I had sent to Sooltanpore could have shewn the place of his residence to the troops deputed to seize him, and they would not have induced Colonel Kyan to move until they had accurately marked the spot of Surnam Sing's concealment.

3. I request you will induce his Excellency to sanction the renewal of the orders which you had given to Colonel Kyan of the 5th instant; and although the alarm given to Surnam Sing, by the late unsuccessful proceeding, may for the present defeat our efforts to secure him, yet I trust, by the active co-operation of those immediately subject to our Government, we may hereafter obtain possession of his person, with others connected with him. At the same time, I cannot omit the present opportunity, of strongly recommending that, on every occasion, we endeavour to dispense with the proffered aid of his Excellency's officers, which, although granted with every apparent feature of a sincerely good intention on his part, is seldom attended with that success which, under a different system of Government, might be expected, and which, if left to ourselves, we may effect.

I have, &c.

Zillah Elahabad,
23d January 1813.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

To

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2d instant, enclosing the continuation of your correspondence with his Excellency the Vizier, on the subject of the employment of the British troops stationed within his Excellency's dominions, in the apprehension of persons committing offences in the Company's territories and finding refuge in those of the Vizier. The instructions conveyed to you in my despatch of the 29th ultimo, will have apprized you of the deliberate sentiments and resolutions of the Governor-General in Council on that subject, and supersede the necessity of any further communication at the present time.

2. The spirit in which the further correspondence now before his Lordship in Council is conducted, on the part of the Vizier, confirms the justice and necessity of the previously formed determination of his Lordship in Council.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
11th February 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
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11 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 26th February 1813.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. The necessities and importunities of her Highness the younger Begum, since her departure from this province towards Elahabad, have induced me to open a negotiation with his Excellency the Vizier for the commutation of her jagier and provisions for a fixed annual stipend, under the instructions of Government contained in the Chief Secretary's letter of the 11th of September last, sooner than I originally intended, and without awaiting a communication of the sentiments of the Government regarding it, in a direct address to his Excellency the Vizier, or to the Begum, from the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

2. The enclosed copies and translations of letters which have passed on the subject between his Excellency and me, will shew the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council the actual state of the negotiation, and will evince to his Lordship in Council that there is scarcely a shadow of hope of persuading his Excellency the Vizier to do full justice to the Begum, or of inducing her Highness to accept the allowance which his Excellency has offered.

3. A number of creditable witnesses might be called to establish the original amount of the allowance for the supply of her Highness's table ; but his Excellency has distinctly expressed his resolution to reject every evidence that may be offered, save authenticated written documents, which he knows cannot be produced, and indeed were never extant on the subject : and, with regard to the revenue of the jagier, which appears to me to be established in the ordinary manner, by the attested statement of the hereditary revenue officers of the district, his Excellency's refusal to admit that statement, and his wish for an investigation *ex-parte* by a person of his own exclusive selection, would seem to me to be unreasonable in the extreme.

4. His anxiety to get possession of the jagier on any reasonable terms, as the only practicable means of precluding future disputes, was acknowledged and apparent, while the Begum's consent to relinquish it was a matter of doubt and apprehension : but no sooner had her Highness consented to a transfer, on just and reasonable terms, at my earnest entreaty, than his Excellency's anxiety was at an end ; and an alleged inaccuracy in her Highness's statement of the revenue became a pretext for an unprecedented species of investigation, which has manifestly for its object the reduction of her income to a sum inadequate to her support.

5. I suggested to his Excellency in vain, the deputation of Ameens on both parts, with a third to be selected by me, for the purpose of ascertaining the real revenue of the jagier, or its being offered publicly in farm, and his Excellency's receiving it at the valuation, which a farmer might undertake to pay with undoubted security for the establishment and with a firm and steady supply of provisions.

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Consultations,
26 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

stated a mean ratio between her Highness's demand and his offer, which appeared to be reasonable for both parties, but which his Excellency has been pleased to reject in the most positive and resolute terms.

6. Under all the circumstances described, any further attempt upon my part to reconcile those personages to each other, or to induce his Excellency the Vizier to do justice to her Highness the Begum, must of course be totally unavailing; and I am compelled to submit the question again for the consideration and final decision of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

7. I shall use my best endeavours to dissuade her Highness the Begum from quitting Elahabad for the present; although her disappointment in the hope of comfortable accommodation, and the uncommonly high price of provisions at that place, must render her residence there extremely irksome and inconvenient.

Lucknow,
12th January 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 19th December 1812.)

With a reference to what you have stated regarding the provisions supplied to her Highness the Bhabee Begum, the case is this:

An Extract from my letter of the 18th ultimo to your address is enclosed for your information; and agreeably to my promise in that letter, the sum of Rupees 4,662 is sent to you on account of the Khassa, being the amount due from the 29th of Rumzaun to the 14th Zeehijj, at the rate of sixty-three Rupees per diem.

With regard to her Highness's jagier, I transmit for your information an account of the jumma of it.

I have never heard, nor has any person ever represented to me, that confusion and disturbance have been excited in it by the Aumils of the Khalsa.

Extract from His Excellency the Vizier's Letter, dated the 18th November, referred to in the above.

"With regard to the future satisfaction of the Begum and the fulfilment of all her reasonable wishes and views, no fault shall be committed hereafter on my part; and with a view to her immediate gratification, I agree to commute the provisions which are cooked and supplied to her Highness by my officers, though it be contrary to the custom of my Government, for a certain allowance in money, according to your desire."

Estimate of the Jumma of the Jagier denominated Tappah Dadree, for the Fussy Year 1220.

Amount of jumma mal and sewaie, including the revenue of the village Beh-towlee, collected by the Begum's officers, together with nuzzeranah, saeer, nankar, and exemptions to Zemindars.....Rupees 63,239 6 3

Deduct:

Nankar	2,536	4	0
Chowdrees' fees	656	0	0
Exemptions to Zemindars	916	8	0
Pension to Hedayet Oolla Khan	200	0	0
Unrealized balances which are now annually remitted	4,094	8	6
		8,403	8* 6
		54,835	13 9
Commission on the amount of collections at ten per centum	5,483	9	6
		Balance, Rupees	49,352 4 3

True translations:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 23d December 1812.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The money which I received from your Excellency on account of the Khassa of her Highness the Begum Shams-oon-Nissa, namely, the sum of Rupees 4,662, has been deposited in the treasury, as already stated to your Excellency, to await the adjustment of the account. I now submit to your Excellency what I deem to be just and proper, with a reference to the khassa and jagier of her Highness.

The daily expenditure, as originally fixed in the time of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood Dowlah, for the supply of her Highness's kitchen, amounted, as she herself was pleased to declare to me, to the sum of one hundred and twenty-five Rupees; and this statement has been subsequently confirmed, in my belief, by the reports of her Highness's officers and others, who must have been acquainted with the circumstances of the case; in addition to which, it would appear from the statement of Tuhseen Alee Khan, supporting the Begum's declaration, that on an occasion during the Residency of the late Colonel Scott, when the supply of ready-dressed provisions to her Highness was suspended, on some account, for a time, your Excellency sent to her Highness by the hands of Tuhseen Alee Khan at the requisition of Colonel Scott, the sum of Rupees 3,400, on account, as Tuhseen declares, of twenty-eight days in the month of Rumzaun 1216.

It is highly probable, however, as your Excellency has remarked, that the actual expense of the khassa, in latter times, has been no more than sixty-three Rupees per diem: and this is consistent with the fact, that since the year of my arrival at Lucknow her Highness has constantly complained to me of the badness and scantiness of her provisions. Not a month, nor scarcely a week, has elapsed, without complaints of this nature being brought to me; so that the persons appointed by your Excellency to supply provisions for the Begum must have reduced and debased the allowance and quality of the supplies, with the view of pleasing your Excellency by their economy, without regard to her Highness's comfort; and thus the original sum of one hundred and twenty-five Rupees per diem has by degrees been reduced to sixty-three. But it is surely very apparent, that a reduction of this nature can never be pleaded in proof of the sum of sixty-three Rupees having been fixed originally as the allowance for her Highness's supplies; and, consequently, that the amount of the original allowance is that of her Highness's just claim. Nevertheless, as it is always my anxious desire to adjust matters in the easiest and most satisfactory manner, I submit for your Excellency's consideration, that the sum of one hundred Rupees per diem be now fixed by your Excellency as the allowance for her Highness's provisions; and I offer my mediation with her Highness to induce her acceptance of this sum. A smaller allowance than this I cannot, with any propriety, presume to propose to her Highness.

The amount of the revenue of the jagier will still remain to be adjusted; and with this view I submit, for your Excellency's information, a triennial account of the jumma, under the seal of the Chowdree of the jagier, by which your Excellency will perceive that the gross revenue of the fusly year 1219 amounted to the sum of Rupees 62,623, exclusive of the rent of a village which is held by Tuhseen Alee Khan from her Highness rent free, and which will of course remain as heretofore. From the above amount, agreeably to the statement delivered in by the Begum's Vakeel and the Chowdree, the sum of Rupees 5,045 is to be deducted for the annual expenses of collection, the particulars of which will appear to your Excellency on perusal of another statement which is enclosed. Thus, after deducting the expense of collection, the net jumma of the jagier for one year is Rupees 57,578 1.

In the statement which was sent by your Excellency, a further deduction of Rupees 4,094 8 6 per annum is claimed under the head of unrealized balances, which are said to be annually remitted.

It is surprising, your Excellency will admit, and unprecedented in my belief, that in a district of so limited a revenue and extent, so large a deduction should be claimed under the head of irrecoverable balances, so as to constitute an annual loss; and, besides, I am perfectly satisfied, that if so great a deduction were just, the Chowdree of the jagier would have noticed it. Nevertheless, if your

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Excellency desire a more minute investigation of this matter, I shall require from the Aumil, and produce to your Excellency the kabooleats of all the Zemindars of the jagier for the present fusly year, to prove the amount of the assessment. Again, the expense of collection, which is stated in your Excellency's estimate at the rate of ten per cent. on the jumma, seems to me to be highly exorbitant. In the Honourable Company's dominions, it is true, at the commencement of the system of Tehsildarree, an allowance of ten per cent. was granted to the Tehsildar; but at that period the country was unsettled, and since the settlement has been properly made the above allowance has been withdrawn; and in many muhals, to my knowledge, only five per cent. is allowed to cover the expense of collection. In addition to which, it is obvious that if the officers of her Highness the Begum, with power and means so circumscribed, have been able to collect her revenue at the small expense which is stated, your Excellency's power and means should reduce that expense still further; and as I can never permit myself to suppose that your Excellency in this arrangement would seek any personal gain, to the prejudice of her Highness the Begum, I submit with confidence for your ready acquiescence and sanction, the following statement of the amount to be annually paid to her Highness, in lieu of her jagier and provisions.

The annual jumma of the jagier to be estimated at Rupees 57,578-1, and the supply for her Highness's kitchen at the annual sum of Rupees 36,000, making in the aggregate Rupees 93,578-1 per annum, or the sum of Rupees 7,798-2-9 per mensem. If your Excellency be pleased to agree to this estimate, and to pay into the Honourable Company's Treasury at Lucknow the sum which is above stated, I am prepared, under the authority of the Begum, to place your Excellency's officers in possession of the jagier without any further delay, and I shall instruct the Collector of Elahabad to pay that amount to her Highness.

The collections from the jagier for this year, when ascertained by your Excellency's officers in concert with the Begum's, shall be carried to your Excellency's credit in account.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

The particulars of the Expense of Collections of the Jagier of the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa.

Salary of Aumil, including assistant, thirty rupees per month, or per annum	Rupees 360
Expense of Sebundy, per annum	2,585
Nankar to Zemindars	1,500
Russoom to Chowdree	600
	<hr/>
	Per annum, Rupees 5,045

Goshwarah, or summary Account of the Jumma, including Mal and Sewaie, of Tappah Dadree, for the Years 1217, 1218, and 1219 Fusly, exclusive of the Jagier of Tuhseen Alee Khan.

	Rupees.	A.	P.	
Jumma of the year 1217	58,137	3	6	
Sewaie :				
Nuzzeranah	1,007	12	0	
Saaer	651	0	0	
Gunjwannah	106	0	0	
Bheyt and Kubooleeatana	501	0	0	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	2,265	12	0	Rupees. A. P.
				60,402 15 6
				<hr/>
				Jumma

Jumma of the year 1218 59,147 15 9

Sewaie :

Nuzzeranah	1,287	8	0
Saaer	651	0	0
Ganjwannah	106	0	0
Bhey and Kubooleeatana, &c.	501	0	0

2,545 8 0

61,693 7 9

Jumma for the year 1219 59,396 0 0

Sewaie :

Nuzzeranah	1,881	8	0
Saaer	675	0	0
Gunjwannah	119	0	0
Abkarree, if there be any sale for liquors.....	50	0	0
Bhey and Kubooleeatana, &c.	501	0	0

3,226 8 0

62,622 8 0

Given under the seal of Ahmed Oolla, Chowdree of Tappa Dadree.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 27th December 1812.)

Your letter, dated the 23d instant, regarding the amount of the allowance in money, in lieu of the provision and revenue of the jagier of her Highness the Bhabee Begum, with its enclosures, has been received. The state of the case is this : The full amount of the allowance for provisions up to the 14th of Zeehijj has been sent to you already, agreeably to my promise, and at the same rate it may be paid to you hereafter. It was formerly my determination to give nothing on this account till her Highness should accede to my desire ; yet, although it be contrary to the custom of my Government, in compliance with your request I relinquish that resolution, and in the terms of my shookha dated the 18th of November (13th Zeekaud), I still agree to continue the allowance at the rate which is there specified.

Regarding what you have stated respecting an occurrence in the time of the Residency of Colonel Scott, as a proof of a larger allowance, I recollect nothing of the matter ; and there being no writing to prove it, I cannot credit the mere assertion of any person.

I transmitted to you formerly a copy of the statement of the revenue of the jagier which was submitted for my information ; and as I know nothing of the actual amount of the revenue or capability of the jagier, nor, as you say, do I wish either profit to the prejudice of the Begum, nor loss to my own prejudice, it appears to me to be advisable that a person be deputed from the Presence to the jagier, to ascertain its actual revenue and assets from the Seghadars on the spot, and report them to the Presence ; and agreeably to his report, an allowance in money for the jagier, after making the necessary deductions for expense of collection, &c. shall be regularly paid to her Highness. The commission on the amount of the revenue, as expense of collection, has been fixed agreeably to the custom in my dominions.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Copies

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Bengal Political
Consultations
26 Feb. 1813.

Copies of the foregoing documents having been transmitted for the consideration of the Begum, her Highness sent the following reply.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Begum.

From Her Highness the Begum Shums-oon-Nissa. (Received the
10th January 1813.)

By the blessing of God my health is now re-established. On the 16th of December I arrived at Elahabad, and was anxiously wishing to hear of your health and welfare, when your letters, dated the 24th and 29th of December, with copies of two letters from my brother to your address, were received. I have understood all their contents. My friend, you have undoubtedly exerted yourself to the utmost in your power for the adjustment of the affairs of my Sircar; but as the settlement was not in your power, and the result was in the hands of others, nothing has been done to my satisfaction.

With regard to what you have stated of the demand of my brother for authentic documents to establish the amount of my khassa (provisions), and his agreeing to pay sixty-three rupees per diem on that account, if my brother will not admit what was paid to me by himself in the time of the late Colonel Scott, and demands stronger proof than this payment, to what else can I ascribe it than his desire to continue to vex and harass me? and, in this case, how can I expect that he will credit the testimony of other witnesses, who are well acquainted with the original circumstances of the case? It seems advisable, and now indispensable, that I quit this city and proceed to Calcutta, to lay my grievances before the Right Honourable the Governor-General, Lord Minto, in person; for as justice is the peculiar attribute of the Honourable Company, and his Lordship in a particular degree has ever been attentive to my distresses, he will doubtless, on this occasion, befriend me, prevent others from oppressing me to such a degree, and direct the satisfaction of all my just claims and demands by my brother.

Under these circumstances, I do not wish, for the present, to take money in lieu of my jagier. I shall shortly transmit to you a letter to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, stating the hardships which I still suffer from my brother, notwithstanding my having quitted his country, and my intention of proceeding to Calcutta to seek redress.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 12th ultimo, on the subject of the commutation of the jagier of Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and the supplies for her Highness's table, which she has been accustomed to receive from the Vizier's kitchen, for a fixed annual payment in money.

2. It is with regret that the Governor-General in Council has learned that the Vizier, after admitting the principle of the proposed arrangement, has pertinaciously opposed the accomplishment of it, by withholding his consent to the only fair and equitable means of ascertaining the value of the objects of the commutation.

3. His Lordship in Council can ascribe to no other cause than a desire to defeat an arrangement to which he has given a pretended consent, the conduct of his Excellency, in requiring that the value of the jagier shall be determined by the result of an investigation to be conducted by Ameer of his own selection, and in demanding the production of written vouchers in support of the amount of the supplies which, as you state, he knows have never existed.

After

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Feb. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

4. After having undertaken the adjustment of this affair on behalf of the Begum, and having obtained her consent to the commutation of the jagier, as a mode of adjustment supposed to be more satisfactory to the Vizier than that formerly proposed by the Begum, the Governor-General in Council cannot with propriety relinquish his endeavours to effect the attainment of these objects without a further effort. It is true that we cannot insist upon his Excellency's acquiescence in the proposed arrangement; but since he has admitted the propriety of it generally, we shall be justified in urging him to adopt the only measure which can give it effect, by consenting to a fair and impartial inquiry into the actual amount of the jagier and of the provisions. You are, therefore, authorized to renew, in urgent terms, and in the name of the Governor-General in Council, your representations on this subject, pointing out to his Excellency not only the injustice of exposing the Begum to pecuniary loss, by an arrangement rendered necessary only by the vexation and disquiet which have compelled her to seek an asylum in the Honourable Company's dominions, but the deep injury which his reputation for humanity, generosity, and good faith, must sustain, if, after consenting to the measure in question, he shall continue to throw obstacles in the way of its accomplishment, which will doubtless be ascribed by the world to the most unworthy motives. You will urge his Excellency to admit the valuation of the jagier, founded on the statements of the hereditary revenue officers of the district, or to consent to one of the other modes of ascertaining the value of it offered by you to his Excellency's consideration. If he shall persist in his opposition to all those modes of proceeding, you will state to him expressly that the Governor-General in Council will consider him to have retracted the consent already formally given, and urge him to reflect on the impression which such conduct must make on the mind of his Lordship in Council. You will then proceed to apprise him of the desire formerly expressed by the Begum to Colonel Scott, to place the management of her jagier under the superintendence and guarantee of the British Government, accompanied by the explanation suggested in the fifth paragraph of Colonel Scott's letter of the 27th October 1802; and you will omit no argument calculated to prevail on him to accede to this arrangement, or to the preferable one of a just and fair commutation of the jagier for a fixed annual stipend. If your endeavours to obtain his consent to either shall be fruitless, you will be pleased to submit the case for the further consideration and orders of the Governor-General in Council.

5. With respect to the supplies, you appear to be satisfied that they have been greatly under-rated by the Vizier, and his Lordship in Council trusts that, by renewing your representations on this subject, and stating to the Vizier the earnest desire of the British Government that the just expectations of the Begum on this head should be realized, you will succeed in fixing the amount to be paid to her Highness at the rate you proposed, or at least at a sum more nearly approaching what is supposed to have been the cost of the provisions than that tendered by his Excellency.

6. The Governor-General in Council is not aware of any further instructions that can be furnished in the present state of the business.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
26th February 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 5th March 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 29th ultimo, in answer to mine of the 15th, conveying the orders of Government for the employment of the British troops stationed in the Vizier's dominions, on the requisition of the Magistrates of contiguous districts, to seize the persons of

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar., 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

marauders and other public offenders against our government, who may find refuge in the territory of the Vizier.

2. The substance of your letter above noticed was communicated, and translations of all its enclosures were presented and read, to the Vizier, at a conference which took place in the palace, on Tuesday the 16th instant, when his Excellency was formally and solemnly apprized of my resolution to carry the orders of Government into effect, with or without his concurrence, on the ensuing Thursday or Friday, and every argument that I could think of was adduced to obtain his concurrence in the measure, and to save him the discredit of having opposed, from motives of enmity to our Government, an arrangement so totally unobjectionable, and so indispensable to the protection of our subjects from injuries, for the redress of which his Government was solely responsible.

3. On my return from the palace on Tuesday last, I was followed by a messenger from his Excellency, to request a translation of the orders of Government conveyed to me by your despatch, and to announce his intention of committing his sentiments and ultimate determination on the subject of them to writing, though without any wish or design to suspend the execution of the orders which he was aware of the necessity of my obeying.

4. I complied with his Excellency's request, repeating my earnest advice and entreaty that his determination might be such as I should feel pleasure in conveying to his Excellency's friend, the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and suggesting the utter impossibility of any further delay, upon my part, in the execution of his Lordship's commands; as well as announcing my resolution to refrain from making any reply to such remarks and objections as his Excellency had been in the habit of offering, and might now be disposed to renew, for the purpose of evading this arrangement. I accompanied my transmission of a Persian copy of the substance of the orders of Government with that of a copy of instructions to be issued to the commanding officers of our troops, and of corresponding instructions from his Excellency to his Aumils, which I submitted the propriety of his issuing, in the case of his concurrence in the arrangement. Copies of both those documents are transmitted by this despatch, for his Lordship in Council's information.

5. On Friday the 19th instant, I had the honour of receiving from his Excellency a short letter, conveying and referring to a statement of his sentiments and wishes on the subject of the proposed arrangement, in which his Excellency was pleased to depart from one of the conditions that were formerly annexed to his consent, namely, the presence and co-operation of his Aumils with the commanding officers of our troops, but to insist on a particular communication to himself, through the medium of the Resident at his Court, of the precise nature and object of every requisition from a Magistrate, before that requisition should be forwarded, or a movement of the troops be authorized, in any emergency whatever. The letter further conveyed a document of considerable length, intended as an answer to the arguments arising out of the amicable conduct of their Highnesses the Nizam and Maharajah Dowlut Rao Scindiah towards the British Government, on occasions similar to the present, contrasted with the conduct of the Vizier.

6. The nature of the latter condition imposed by his Excellency on his consent to the arrangement prescribed by our Government being obviously hostile to its success, if not intended to frustrate its object, and the arguments, or rather the groundless remarks, by which this condition was supported, appearing to me to be frivolous and perverse in the extreme, I adhered to and repeated my resolution to refrain from making any reply to them; and I exhibited to his Excellency's confidential servant, who brought me his letter, my instructions to the commanding officers of Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, in the form of despatches prepared for transmission, and to be transmitted in the course of that evening.

7. His Excellency shortly after announced his intention to honour me with his company at breakfast on the following morning: and in the expectation of ultimate success in obtaining his consent to the arrangement, I postponed the transmission of my letters to the commanding officers of the troops.

8. The

8. The result has been propitious to my views. At a conference this morning, which lasted for several hours, and during which I successively combated the remarks in his Excellency's statements, and a number of others equally frivolous, perverse, and absurd, I succeeded at length in obtaining his seemingly cordial consent to an arrangement, which appears to be calculated to answer all the purposes in view, to the extent contemplated by the Government, and prescribed by its instructions to me in the Chief Secretary's despatch under date the 21st of August last.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

9. I transmit, for more particular information regarding the terms of the arrangement in question, a copy of my letter of this date to the Magistrate of the zillah of Elahabad; and I shall be extremely happy to learn that this document, and the others to which it has reference, have met with the approbation of the Government.

10. Translations of the letter and statements received from his Excellency the Vizier on Friday the 19th instant, and a detail of the arguments by which his Excellency's remarks were successfully combated at the conference of this morning, shall hereafter be submitted for his Lordship in Council's information.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th February 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

(Circular.)

To Colonel F. Kyan, commanding the Troops at Sooltanpore, and
Lieutenant-Colonel R. Frith, commanding the Troops at Pertaubghur.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The frequent outrages and depredations committed in the district of Elahabad, by fugitives and outlaws from the British territory, finding refuge in the dominions of the Vizier, and the general failure of the measures hitherto adopted by this Government for the suppression or seizure of those marauders, or their expulsion from the territory of the Vizier, appearing to his Excellency and to me to require the adoption of more prompt and effectual measures for the accomplishment of the object in view, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for your particular information and guidance, the enclosed translation of instructions which have this day been issued by his Excellency, in compliance with my suggestion, to the Aumils of the districts around you; and, in the spirit of those instructions, I have further the honour to desire that, on every future occasion of your receipt of authentic intelligence from the Magistrate of the zillah of Elahabad, or from persons deputed by that officer, of the concealment of a marauder or other public delinquent in the vicinity of the station which you command, you will be pleased, without any delay, on the requisition of the above-mentioned officer, to adopt the necessary measures for the seizure of the delinquent described, by proceeding with the troops under your orders, or detaching a portion of them on this service, as the circumstances of the case may suggest.

2. You will exercise your own judgment in deciding on the propriety of your apprizing the Vizier's Aumil, or other officers, of the intelligence which you receive from the Magistrate, and the measures which you intend to adopt, requiring or dispensing with the aid and co-operation of the Aumil, as they may tend, in your own opinion, to facilitate or impede your success; and you will be pleased to report to the Magistrate and to me, for the information of his Excellency and of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, your proceedings on every occasion of the nature to which these instructions refer.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th February 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Instructions

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar. 1818.

Instructions to
Aumils.

Instructions to Aumils.

The relations of friendship and amity between the Honourable Company's Government and this being established in such a degree, that the rebels or enemies of either Government, and all public offenders against either, are alike the enemies of both, and the seizure and punishment of such offenders the duty and interest of both, and it being understood by the Presence that, notwithstanding repeated and most positive injunctions to the contrary, a number of fugitives and outlaws from the British territory, finding refuge and protection in this country, commit outrages and depredations in the Honourable Company's districts, and evade the punishment of their crimes; therefore, with a view to the more effectual prevention of those depredations in future, and to the seizure and punishment of the offenders, as well as in consideration of the firm friendship and unity subsisting between the two States, it is now determined and agreed, that all commanding officers of British troops stationed in the frontier districts of the territory of the Presence, be, for the future, instructed and authorized, on their receiving authentic intelligence from the Magistrates of contiguous districts in the British dominions of the concealment of a rebel, marauder, or other public offender, in any village or place in the vicinity of the station which they command, to march promptly and suddenly, without previous communication with any one, to the place of the delinquent's concealment, and seize and secure his person, requiring for that purpose, or not, as the commanding officer may think proper, the aid of the officers of this Government and their co-operation in the service proposed.

You are therefore commanded to take notice of the object and purport of these orders, and to warn the Zemindars, &c. of your district, by proclamation, that they hereafter refrain from protecting or harbouring marauders or fugitives of any description from the British territory, the inevitable consequences of which must be the employment of the Company's troops for the seizure of the fugitives so harboured, and the most severe and exemplary punishment of the Zemindars by the Presence, in proportion to the enormity of their crimes.

You are further, on every occasion of a requisition or summons from the commanding officer of the troops, to comply with the object of his requisition, to give implicit obedience to his orders, and provide supplies for the troops in whatever direction they may proceed.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To T. Fortescue, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my letter under date the 9th instant, I have now the satisfaction of informing you, that an arrangement has been concluded this day between the British Government and his Excellency the Vizier, under which the several commanding officers of British troops stationed in his Excellency's dominions will hereafter be authorized and instructed to comply with the requisitions of the Magistrates of all the contiguous districts in the Honourable Company's territory, for the apprehension of every marauder and public offender against our Government, who may be ascertained by precise information to have found refuge, and to be actually concealed, in the neighbourhood of any station or post within the Vizier's dominions.

2. The conditions of this arrangement on the part of the British Government are merely the two following, namely: First, that the information of the place of residence or actual concealment of the offender to be seized, on which the Magistrate's requisition to the commanding officer of a post or station may proceed, be particular, precise, and authentic, with a view to preclude, as far as possible, the unnecessary movement of the troops; and secondly, that before issuing a requisition for the seizure of any marauder in the territory of his Excellency the Vizier, the Magistrate of the contiguous district shall transmit to the Resident at Lucknow, for his Excellency's exclusive information, a general list of

of the names of all the public offenders whose apprehension may be desired by the Magistrate, and for whose seizure his requisitions are to be afterwards issued without reserve, in his ascertaining the place of their concealment.

3. On the part of his Excellency the Vizier, in addition to the general authority for the employment of the British troops in his dominions on the requisition of the Magistrates, as above-mentioned, for the seizure of offenders against our Government, it is particularly provided and agreed, that the officers of his Excellency's Government shall have no knowledge whatever of, nor any participation in, the measures to be adopted by commanding officers, save by their own immediate communication and desire; and further, that even the names of the offenders, to be communicated in the first place by the Magistrates for the Vizier's exclusive information, shall never, on any occasion, or for any purpose whatever, be mentioned to his Excellency's Aumils, or to any other officer of his Government.

4. I transmit for your more particular information regarding the details of the important and beneficial arrangement which has thus been concluded with the Vizier, the enclosed copies of instructions which will be issued by his Excellency and by me to his Aumils and our officers respectively, without any further delay; and I have only to solicit the favour of your furnishing, at your earliest convenience, the list of public offenders which his Excellency has been pleased to require, and which I have engaged to submit to him before the actual movement of any detachment of our troops in compliance with your requisition.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th February 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government, in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir:

In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 20th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government, the annexed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to the Judge and Magistrate of Bareilly, conveying copies of instructions to the commanding officer of the troops at Seetapore and the Aumil of the district of Mohumdie, in terms corresponding with those of the documents already before you.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
22d February 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Henry Dumbleton, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Zillah Bareilly.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for your information, the enclosed copy of a despatch* under date the 20th instant, which has been addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, commanding the troops at Seetapore, for the purpose of authorizing that officer to comply with your eventual requisitions for the seizure of the person of Budjha Sing, or of any other public delinquent, escaping from your jurisdiction and finding refuge in the territory of the Vizier.

2. The principal condition of his Excellency's consent to the beneficial arrangement under which those instructions have been issued to the several commanding officers of British troops in his dominions, is that of his being previously furnished by the Magistrates of contiguous districts, through the medium of the Resident at his Court, with a general list of the delinquents who have fled from the British dominions, are supposed to have found refuge in his territory, and whose apprehension may hereafter become the object of a requisition for the employment of our troops, on the place of their concealment being ascertained.

3. In the spirit of this provision, I solicit the favour of your informing me whether or not there be any other public offender against our Government than
Budjha

* This is a copy of the Circular Letter which is given on page 367, addressed to Colonel Kyan, and Lieutenant-Colonel Frith.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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Budha Sing, whose apprehension is at present desired by you, and if there be, I suggest the propriety of your furnishing, at your earliest convenience, a general list of the names of all such public delinquents for his Excellency the Vizier's information.

Lucknow,
22d February 1813.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. Baillie,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 20th February, reporting your proceedings under the instructions communicated to you in my letter of the 29th January last, and the successful result of your efforts to obtain the acquiescence of the Vizier in the indispensable measure of authorizing the employment of the British troops stationed in his Excellency's dominions, on the requisition of the Magistrates of contiguous districts, for the seizure of public offenders against our Government who find refuge in the territory of Oude.

2. Tardy and reluctant as his Excellency's consent has been, it is a source of satisfaction to the Governor-General in Council that the measure has been effected in apparent concurrence with his Excellency, instead of being promulgated as the act of this Government, independently of the authority of the Vizier, thus exhibiting to the public a marked disagreement between the British Government and the Vizier, on a question of primary importance. You will observe, that the completion of this arrangement is adverted to in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, of which you will receive a copy in my separate despatch of this date. You will be pleased to exercise your own discretion, with regard to anticipating that part of his Lordship's letter by a corresponding communication to his Excellency from yourself on the part of the Government.

3. The conditions annexed to his concurrence in the measure by the Vizier, are not considered by his Lordship in Council to be likely to affect the efficacy of the arrangement.

4. The instructions issued by you to the commanding officers of the troops, and the tenor of your communications to the Magistrates, are entirely approved. There is nothing to be added but the expression of the Governor-General in Council's approbation of the judgment, spirit, and firmness, with which you have executed the instructions above referred to, and which have effected the accomplishment of a most desirable arrangement, and the removal of one more of the many vexatious and embarrassing subjects of contention between this Government and his Excellency the Vizier.

5. Your despatch of the 22d, communicating a copy of your address to the Magistrate of Bareilly, on the subject of the arrangement under consideration, has also been received and submitted to Government.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
March 5th 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

The Persian Secretary having submitted his report on the Persian documents alluded to in the despatch* from the Resident at Lucknow of the 11th January, recorded on the consultations of the 22d January, the letter from the Resident to the Persian Secretary accompanying those documents, and the Persian Secretary's report upon them, are ordered to be now recorded.

To

* See page 340.

To John Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government, Fort William.

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Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. With reference to the subject of my despatch of this date to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, I have the honour of transmitting to you thirty copies of Persian letters, exhibiting the forms of correspondence which were practised by the late Nawaub, Assuf-ood-Dowla, and by his Excellency the present Vizier during the first years of his Government, in their letters to the Resident at Lucknow, and also the forms of address to the Vizier which were practised by the late Mr. Ives, by Mr. Lumsden, and by Colonel Scott, while those gentlemen were Residents at this Court.

2. The object of transmitting the enclosed documents to you, is that of enabling you to report to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, if his Lordship in Council shall be pleased to require your report, on the nature of the change which has taken place on the part of his Excellency the Vizier in the manner of his correspondence with the Resident, and further, on the justice or injustice of the charge of disrespect in correspondence which his Excellency has preferred against me.

3. It must be totally unnecessary, on my part, to request your particular attention to the various epithets and expressions which are used in Persian correspondence, to denote the different degrees of inferiority in the rank of the person addressed with relation to the writer of a letter. You are aware that the term *shookha*, and the words *hoozoor* and *ershad*, are never adopted in correspondence as descriptive of the letter, the person, or the desire of the writer, save by princes or persons of the highest authority and rank, with a reference to their subjects and servants; and that the word *arsee*, *areeza*, *marooz* and *goozarish*, as descriptive of the letter, the written statement, or verbal representation of the person addressed, are highly derogatory to the condition of any person but a subject or servant. Accordingly, you will not fail to observe that in the whole of the bundles of letters marked 1, 2, 3, and 4, from the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and from the present Vizier to the Residents, Mr. Ives, Mr. Lumsden, and Colonel Scott, there is not a single instance of the application of any one of the exceptionable words above noticed, and that the terms *morasula*, *cinjanib*, *goftu*, *khut*, *mokatuba*, *murkoom*, *erkām*, *ezhār*, &c. are very properly substituted to express the same meaning: while, on the other hand, in the bundle No. 5, containing his Excellency the present Vizier's letters to my address, you will observe not only the constant application of all the above exceptionable terms, but also the style and manner throughout of a *shookha* or mandate from a prince to his servant of nearly the lowest degree. The expression "*bu moolahuza dur amud*," too, instead of *woozool numood*, in every one of his Excellency's letters, to signify his receipt of the Resident's letter, is, in my judgment, extremely exceptionable, and constitutes another remarkable distinction between the manner of former times and that of the present day: in addition to which, the constant introduction of the date at the end of his Excellency's letters, as well as on the envelope, denoting the manner of a *shookha*, is superfluous, contrary to former usage, and manifestly intended to give offence. The omission of the word *sahib* on the envelope is another mark of disrespect, by which his Excellency has been pleased to distinguish my immediate predecessor and myself.

5. With reference to the second object of this letter, and of the transmission of the enclosed documents to you, it is superfluous, and would perhaps be improper, to make any remarks. A comparison of any one or all of my letters to his Excellency the Vizier, of which copies are lodged in your office, with the documents in the bundle No. 6, or with the forms established in your office for your own correspondence with the Vizier, will enable you to form an accurate judgment on the nature of the charge which his Excellency has preferred against me, and to submit your opinion, if required, to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

6. A memorandum in Persian, having reference to the subject of this despatch, and particularly to the documents enclosed in it, which has been prepared

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prepared and submitted to me by the head Moonshee of the Residency, would seem to be worthy of your notice, and is transmitted with that view,

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
11th January 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Persian Secretary's Report. *Persian Secretary's Report on the Forms of Correspondence between the late and present Vizier and successive Residents at Lucknow.*

Having been directed to report on the subject of the Persian documents transmitted by Major Baillie in his letter of the 11th ultimo, for the purpose of enabling Government to form a judgment of the general accuracy of the remarks contained in Major Baillie's address to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier on the 8th of January, on the nature of the charge preferred by his Excellency against the Resident, of disrespect in the forms of his correspondence with his Excellency; I have examined those documents with attention, and have now the honour to report the result of that examination for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

There appear to be two questions for consideration: first, the form of the Vizier's letters to the Resident at his Court; secondly, the form of the Resident's letters to his Excellency: I shall accordingly discuss them separately in that order.

The document marked No. 1 is a copy of a letter from the late Nawaub, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, to Mr. Ives, in which the term used as descriptive of the letter received is "*Khut-ikhyreeut numut*," and that signifying the receipt of the letter is *russeedu*.

The documents marked No. 2 consist of copies of five letters from Asuf-ood-Dowlah, addressed to Mr. Lumsden.

The terms used in these letters to designate the writer and his own letter, are *een janeb*, or *dili-dostee-munzil*, or *Mizaji-mowuddut-indimaj*, and *Muktoob-i-khyr-usloob*; while those which are descriptive of the letter received are *Khut-i-lhyreeut-numut*, or *mookatüba-khyreeut-teraz*; of the person addressed, *aun geramee kuddur*; of the receipt of the letter and knowledge of its contents, *russeedu kâshif-i hâlât gurdeed*, or *wusool numoodu musroor-o mootülla sakht*, or *wusool-i ibtilâj shumool numoodu musroor o moonbussit sâkht*.

Of the letters above enumerated, none bear any date either at the foot of the letters or on the envelope.

The documents marked No. 3 consist of copies of five letters addressed by the present Vizier to Mr. Lumsden.

The writer in these letters designates himself *een janeb*. He terms the letters of the Resident, *khut-i-khyreeut numut*, *mookatüba-i khyreeut teraz*, or *mooräsula*; signifies the receipt of them by the terms *chihru-i wusool ufrokht* or *wusool numoodu*; and on one occasion signifies his knowledge of the contents of a letter which he had received by the terms *kâshif-i hâlât gurdeed*.

Of these letters one is without date, three are properly dated on the envelope, but the last letter bears the date at the conclusion of it.

The documents No. 4 consist of copies of five letters from the present Vizier to Colonel Scott.

In these the writer designates himself *een janib*, calls his correspondent's letters *mooräsula* or *mookatüba*, with the epithet *khyreeut teraz*, and signifies his receipt of them, in his first letter, by the words *ber muzmoon-i-moondereja ittala o agahce dustad*, and in his subsequent letters by the term *kâshif-i hâlât gurdeed*.

Among the documents comprised in Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, I find the words *gofu erkâm* and *novishtu* employed, to express the verbal or written statement of the person addressed.

These

These letters are all dated not only on the envelope but also at the conclusion of them.

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The documents No. 5 consist of copies of letters from the present Vizier to Major Baillie.

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The term *shookha*, and the words *hoozoor* and *ershaud*, are employed in all these letters to express the *letter*, the *person*, and the *desire* of the writer; while the terms *mookatüba-i-khyreeut teraz*, and *bu moolahiza der amud*, are employed to express the *letter* of the person addressed and the *receipt* of his letter, and the words *maarooz* and *goozarish* are used as descriptive of the *written statement*, or *verbal representation* of the person addressed.

These letters are all dated at the end, as well as on the envelope.

The preceding documents fully prove the correctness of Major Baillie's observation, that the Vizier, in his correspondence with the present Resident, has departed very essentially from the forms which the late Vizier, Asuf-ood Dowlah observed towards Mr. Ives and Mr. Lumsden, and which his Excellency the present Vizier himself used during the early part of his administration, and that the present style of the Vizier's letters resembles the style of mandates issued by a Prince to his subjects or servants, which was not before the case.

Thus we find, in the present correspondence of his Excellency the Vizier with the Resident, the words *shookha*, *hoozoor*, and *ershaud*, denoting the *letter*, the *person*, and the *desire* of the writer, substituted for those of *muktoob-i-khyr-usloob een janib*, and *goftu*; and the terms *bu moolahiza der amud*, *maarooz*, and *goozarish*, implying the *receipt* of the letter addressed to the writer, and the *verbal* or *written statement received*, supply the place of *wusool numoodu*, or *wusool-iblihaj shumool numoodu*, and *erkäm, izhär, &c.*

The forms observed by Asuf-ood-Dowlah, even, do not exhibit a perfect uniformity or consistency of style. For instance, in signifying his *receipt* of a letter and his *knowledge* of its contents, Asuf-ood-Dowlah has at one time said *wusool-iblihaj-shumool numoodu musroor o moonbussit sakht*, while at another he has simply said *russeedu kashif-i-hälät gurdeed*; the former being a term of equality, whereas the latter expression is only applicable to a *perwanah* or order. But I ascribe the deviation alluded to rather to accident or ignorance on the part of the Moonshee, than to design on the part of the late Nawaub, since the other parts of the letter, which contains the expression *kashif-i hälät gurdeed*, do not partake of the style of a *perwanah*. The absence of all date to Asuf-ood-Dowlah's letters is rather irregular than indicative of any want of due consideration for the Resident.

From the Persian documents transmitted by Major Baillie, the first change introduced by the present Vizier into his correspondence with the Resident at his Court appears in his last letter to Mr. Lumsden, in which I observe that the date is placed at the conclusion of the letter, whereas the date to the other letters from his Excellency to that gentleman appears on the envelope. The distinction is this: that *letters* have their date on the envelope, and *perwanahs* or orders at the foot of the writing. But why this change was introduced into the last letter to Mr. Lumsden, whether by design or in consequence of any accidental change of the Vizier's Moonshee, of course does not appear. The last letter to Mr. Lumsden which is dated at the conclusion does not bear any date on the envelope; but all the letters addressed to his immediate successor, Colonel Scott, (of which copies have been transmitted by Major Baillie), bear date both at the conclusion of them and on their envelopes. The circumstance of the date being on the envelope also, does not, however, in the least degree counteract the humiliating effect of the appearance of the date at the conclusion of the letter.

The next change which appears in the form of the Vizier's correspondence, is that which his Excellency now observes towards the present Resident.

It has been observed by Major Baillie of the Vizier's letters to Colonel Scott, that not any material difference exists in point of form from that observed

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towards other Residents, excepting the change of the place of their date which has been already noticed. This change seems to have been introduced from the very first commencement of Colonel Scott's time, since the letters, of which Major Baillie has transmitted copies, are all dated in 1799 and 1800. Major Baillie is correct, however, in stating generally, that the change in the form of the Vizier's correspondence with the Resident began in the latter part of Colonel Scott's Residency, since I have found in the Persian office a copy of a letter from Colonel Scott to the Vizier, dated 17th July 1801, in which Colonel Scott acknowledges the receipt of the Vizier's *shookha*, or *mandate*, in reply to his *areeza*. Thus it appears that nearly the present form of correspondence was established in that year; and it seems to have been maintained, as far as depended on the Vizier, to the present time. Whether this essential change ever attracted the notice of Colonel Scott, or whether his acquaintance with the intricate forms of Persian correspondence was such as to enable him to detect the change, cannot now be known, but it appears from the tenor of his reply just cited, that he, or at least his Moonshee, acquiesced in that change. The important negotiations, however, in which Colonel Scott was then engaged with the Vizier was not a time to cavil about mere forms of epistolatory intercourse. He was looking to the attainment of substantial benefits for the Company, and if he was aware of the change, he was probably not disposed to enter into any controversy about it at that moment. But, excepting under peculiar circumstances, such inattention on the part of the representative of the British Government to those forms to which the natives attach so much importance is perhaps not proper.

Major Baillie has adverted to the omission, on the part of the Vizier, of the word *sahab* on the envelope of his Excellency's Letters to his address, and that of his immediate predecessor, as a mark of disrespect on the part of the Vizier.

The documents transmitted by Major Baillie, as specimens of the late and present Vizier's correspondence with Mr. Ives, Mr. Lumsden, and Colonel Scott, all contain the word *sahab* on the envelope. This word, as stated by Major Baillie, is omitted on the envelope of the letters to his address, and the omission Major Baillie says refers to Colonel Collins's time.

Whether the Nawaub Vizier, by omitting the word *sahab* on the superscription of his letters to the late Colonel Collins and to the present Resident, intended to manifest less consideration for them, I do not know. The other changes which his Excellency has introduced into the form of his correspondence, certainly countenance the belief that the omission in question was suggested by similar motives; but considering the question abstractedly, I doubt whether the omission of the word *sahab*, in a case where the person addressed, as in the instance of Major Baillie, possesses elevated Oriental titles, can properly be considered as any disrespect.

I know that the word *sahab* is generally omitted in the superscription of letters to the address of English gentlemen, when high sounding Oriental titles are associated with their names.

Now Mr. Lumsden and Colonel Scott had no titles: might not the Vizier, then, say that the word *sahab* was properly applied to them because they had no titles, but that the circumstance of Colonel Collins and Major Baillie being distinguished by titles rendered the insertion of the *sahab* unnecessary if not improper.

Mr. Ives, however, had titles, and the single letter from Asuf-ood-Dowlah to his address (of which Major Baillie has sent a copy) certainly does bear the word *sahab* on the envelope. Still there is no doubt that the word *sahab* in such cases is generally omitted, and the use of it, in addressing gentlemen who are distinguished by high titles from the throne of Delhi, is esteemed wrong, because the former is considered to be lost in the superiority of the latter.

I believe that Major Baillie obtained his titles from the throne of Delhi subsequently to his appointment to the Court of Lucknow; if, therefore, it should appear that the Vizier omitted the word *sahab* in the superscription of the letters

letters to Major Baillie's address before he obtained his Oriental titles, the intention of his Excellency in omitting it would be placed beyond all doubt, and leave his Excellency without the shadow of a plea for his conduct in that respect. On referring to the few letters from his Excellency to my address, I find that I, who have no titles, have not the compliment paid to me of being styled *saheb*, which shews that the Vizier does not always introduce the word *saheb* where titles are not enjoyed.

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Of the degree of offence offered to the dignity of the representative of the British Government by the changes which the Vizier has introduced into the form of his correspondence with the Resident, the Members of Council will be able to form a correct opinion, from their knowledge of the high importance which the natives of all Asia attach to points of this nature.

Having disposed of the first question, I now proceed to the consideration of the second.

The document No. 6 contains copies of the undermentioned letters from the gentlemen who have successively filled the station of Resident at Lucknow.

- 1 Letter from Mr. Ives,
- 1 Do. from Mr. Johnson,
- 4 Do. from Mr. Lumsden,
- 3 Do. from Colonel Scott.

The terms used by these gentlemen, to express the letters of the Vizier, are by Mr. Ives, *newauxish nama*; Mr. Johnson, *ashfauk nama wurood-i shufkut amood*; Mr. Lumsden, *inayet nama-i tufuzzool amood*, or *inayet nama i aātee*; Colonel Scott, ditto.

It will be observed, that every succeeding Resident has described the Vizier's letters, by a more respectful term than his immediate predecessor; and the correspondence of these gentlemen embraces the greater part of Asuf-ood-Dowlah's administration, and the early part of the present Vizier's Government.

The term now used by Major Baillie to express the Vizier's letter is *inayet-nama*, with the varied but equally respectful epithets of *shufkut amood*, *tuluttuf amood*, &c. The terms used in speaking of the Vizier, *his desire*, &c. are more respectful than those which I have had an opportunity of seeing in the correspondence of which he has transmitted copies. Thus Major Baillie, as he has stated, has only reverted to the forms which were observed by the Residents during the late Vizier Asuf-ood-Dowlah's administration, and continued for a time after the present Vizier's accession, while, on the other hand, the Vizier addresses the Resident in a style which places him in a rank relative to his Excellency far inferior to those of his predecessors, who practised the same forms of correspondence as are now used by Major Baillie.

In short, as far as I can judge, the language of Major Baillie's letters to the Vizier is highly respectful. Whether there is any thing in the spirit of them which can justly give umbrage to his Excellency, is a point on which it is no part of my duty to pronounce an opinion, since it is one on which Government has ample means of judging, through the medium of the translations of the Resident's letters; but it is fair to presume, that if any such objection did exist, it would have been noticed in the progress of his correspondence with the Vizier, translations of which have been regularly submitted to the observation of Government.

(Signed) J. MONCKTON,
Persian Secretary to Government.

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Mr. Edmonstone records the following Minute.

Mr. Edmonstone's Minute, 27th February 1813.

Mr. Edmonstone's
Minute.

The Persian Secretary's analytical observations on the relative forms of correspondence between the Vizier and the British Resident are entirely consistent with all the knowledge I possess of the rules and principles by which those forms are regulated, and I fully concur in the conclusions which Mr. Monckton has drawn. It is to be observed, that the Vizier's charge against the Resident, on the subject of the latter's written and verbal communications, and the Resident's statement relative to the impropriety of the style of writing adopted by the Vizier, stand on very different grounds. It is the matter and spirit of the Resident's *representation* of which the Vizier complains. It is the assumption of a high and authoritative style of address, unsuited to his Excellency's relative rank, that constitutes the Resident's charge against the Vizier. The first is compatible with the observance of the strictest forms of Oriental correspondence; the latter is inadmissible and offensive, however gracious the substance of the communication may be.

Although the severity of some occasional passages in the series of the Resident's letters to the Vizier might perhaps have been avoided, without weakening the force and effect of his representations, yet the general language of argument and controversy employed by the Resident, naturally, and even necessarily, proceeds from the very nature of the subjects of negotiation, combined with the peculiar temper and disposition of the Vizier, the defects of his character, and the vicious system of his Government. That language of argument and controversy offends the Vizier, because it is addressed (unavoidably addressed) to him. In every other State there is a Minister, who conducts with the representative of a foreign power the details of negotiation: the freedom of discussion is not embarrassed by the inequality of rank, and offence to the sovereign is avoided by the intervention of an agent. If the Vizier thinks proper to undertake the detail of duties which belongs to an officer of Government, he must submit to the inconvenience which necessarily attends the assumption of that subordinate character. He has no title to complain of the spirit and matter of communications which belong to the subject of negotiation, and which under the system adopted by him for the conduct of public affairs can only be addressed to himself. The language of Major Baillie's letters, considered with reference to the minute rules prescribed for the selection of words and phrases, according to the relative rank of the parties, rules complicated and extensive, and altogether unknown in the system of European correspondence, is not merely unexceptionable, but perfectly respectful, and the Vizier does not appear to me to accuse him of a departure from those rules.

The Vizier himself, however, deviates from them essentially. The style of his letters to the Resident is that which no person of rank inferior to that of royalty is entitled to employ in addressing the representative of a foreign State: it is an offence to the British Government, as well as personally to the Resident. The terms, *shookha*, *hoozoor*, *ershaud*, &c. applied to himself, and *maarooz*, *goozareth*, applied to the representations of the other party, are precisely those which he would adopt in writing to the lowest of his subjects, and this gross impropriety should certainly be corrected.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE.

Letter from the
Governor-General.

From the Governor-General to His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the
5th March 1813.)

I have received your Excellency's letter, dated 1st January, answering to the
....., stating certain causes of dissatisfaction with Major Baillie, the Resident at your Excellency's Court, and expressing your desire to carry into effect the intention which your Excellency has frequently intimated of travelling into foreign countries.

The

The respect which is due to every statement proceeding from your Excellency, and the grave and serious nature of the charges which you have preferred against the Resident, having rendered it my duty to give your Excellency's letter the most mature consideration, and to examine with attention the grounds of those charges, some delay necessarily occurred in the preparation of an answer to your Excellency's letter. That delay has been unavoidably still further increased, by the intermediate receipt from the Resident of the correspondence which passed between your Excellency and Major Baillie subsequently to his letter to your Excellency's address of the 2d of January, the tenor of that correspondence having brought to my observation some circumstances connected with the style and manner which your Excellency has of late years adopted in your letters to the Residents, as I shall have occasion to notice before I conclude this letter, which rendered a previous revision of the correspondence of your Excellency and your illustrious predecessor with the several successive Residents at the Court of Lucknow necessary, to enable this Government to form a correct judgment of the merits of the question.

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Letter from the
Governor-General.

I proceed, in the first instance, to reply to your Excellency's letter of the 1st January.

I cannot but lament, that your Excellency should have so far misconstrued Major Baillie's conduct and language, as to found on them a formal charge against that officer of a deficiency in the respect and honour due to your Excellency's exalted rank.

The tenor of the statements which Major Baillie had the honour to submit to your Excellency, in answer to the charges contained in your Excellency's letter, to which I now reply, and in your letter to his address of the 7th January, together with the reports which I have received from him of his proceedings in the several cases to which your Excellency refers, enable me to return a specific answer to every part of your letter.

Your Excellency first states, that "Major Baillie, in consequence of dissatisfaction with your Excellency for some time past, has failed in those observations of respectful consideration in his letters which were practised by the Residents at your Excellency's Court."

Major Baillie is in the habit of communicating to the Governor-General in Council copies of all letters and memorials which he is called on to address to your Excellency in the course of his official duty.

Many of those papers contain urgent representations and remonstrances to your Excellency on points of discussion between your Excellency and the Resident, equally affecting the honour and interests of the two Governments, in which the Resident was required, both by the nature of the subject and the tenor of the instructions under which he acted, to employ the language of complaint and expostulation. In such discussions, it must necessarily happen that sentiments and expressions will occur which cannot be altogether agreeable to your Excellency; but while this is admitted, I am compelled to state my dissent from your Excellency's opinion, that there is any thing in the style of Major Baillie's addresses which can bear the construction of intemperance or disrespect. I can only, therefore, account for their having appeared to your Excellency in that point of view, from the dissatisfaction which your Excellency felt at the repeated instances of the Resident, on subjects in their nature unpleasant to your Excellency's feelings.

Your Excellency must be sensible, however, that Major Baillie would have neglected his duty to the Government which he serves, as well as your Excellency's true interests, if he had omitted to exert all his powers of persuasion and argument to prevail on your Excellency to comply with the just and reasonable expectations of this Government. It has been at all times, and is still in your Excellency's power, to relieve yourself from the discussion of these unpalatable subjects, by acquiescing in requisitions so just and moderate, and so

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Letter from the
Governor-General.

clearly conducive to the true interests of your Government ; but while your Excellency shall continue to disregard the friendly counsel of the British Government, and of the Resident as the representative of that Government, and shall withhold a compliance with its just demands, or salutary advice, your Excellency must be prepared to receive similar representations, as it is impossible that I can discontinue my efforts to accomplish objects which I am entitled by treaty, and impelled by the manifest interests and reputation of the two Governments, as well as by the common feelings of humanity, to pursue.

Your Excellency next proceeds to state, that Major Baillie prevented you from going on a hunting excursion. After the satisfactory statement which Major Baillie has submitted to you on this point, I trust your Excellency will excuse me from enlarging on the subject.

The next article of complaint against Major Baillie stated in your Excellency's letter, is expressed in the following terms : " At a recent conference, on Saturday the 14th Zeehijj (19th December), he, Major Baillie, observed to me in great anger, that he considered the respectful consideration which he has hitherto shewn to the Presence as improper : that with regard to certain questions requiring adjustment my consent was unnecessary ; that it behoved him, in compliance with the requisitions of the elder Begum, to send his own people and place her in possession of the disputed villages, to send his own people to adjust the complaints of the Honourable Company's sepoys, and possess them of their rights agreeably to their request, and to send a servant of his own to pass Hyder Bukhsh out of the city."

The clear and satisfactory statement of the substance of what passed at the conference between your Excellency and Major Baillie, on the 14th of Zeehijj, contained in his letter to your Excellency's address of the 2d of January, and resting on the acknowledged integrity and veracity of that officer, leaves no room to doubt that your Excellency must have entirely misapprehended the tenor, spirit, and manner of his discourse to your Excellency on that occasion. That part of Major Baillie's representation which related to the eventual employment of the British troops for the suppression or seizure of banditti infesting the Company's provinces, was made by my express direction, and was founded on the absolute right which we possessed of resorting to our own means of obtaining that redress and security which was denied by your Excellency, in direct contradiction to the spirit of the alliance.

I have now learned with the most cordial satisfaction that your Excellency has acquiesced in the arrangement which the Resident has again proposed to your Excellency by my orders. The gratification which this result of the discussion has afforded me is proportioned to the regret which I should have experienced if your Excellency's perseverance in refusing to comply with the just expectations of this Government had compelled me to resort to the only means which would then have remained of providing for the security and tranquillity of the Honourable Company's possessions. I am willing to receive your Excellency's consent to this arrangement as a proof of your desire to afford satisfaction to the British Government on all points connected with your administration, by which its interests are affected.

With regard to the subjects of difference between your Excellency and her Highness the Bhow Begum, which were referred to by Major Baillie, your Excellency is aware that the British Government not only possesses the right, but is under a positive obligation to protect and secure her Highness's rights, and to investigate and determine all disputes that may arise between her Highness and your Excellency, or between your respective officers and servants. It is superfluous to refer more particularly to the terms of an engagement which I have so recently had occasion to bring under your Excellency's particular notice in my letter of the 8th May last. Major Baillie was perfectly justified in agitating the subject with your Excellency, and in expecting your acquiescence in his judgment, without a special reference to my authority.

The

The case of Mal Tewarree, naick, a sepoy in the service of the British Government, is so striking an instance of oppression and extortion on the part of one of your Excellency's Aumils, practised against a person actually in the service of the Company, and consequently entitled in a peculiar degree to the protection of this Government, that Major Baillie would have shrunk from his duty, if he had not strongly urged your Excellency to take measures for redressing the grievances of that unfortunate person and of others of the same class suffering similar injuries. His conduct, therefore, was exactly that which he would have been instructed to pursue, had the case been such as to require a reference to my authority.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar. 1813.

Letter from the
Governor-General.

The case of Hyder Bukhsh was submitted to me by the Resident previously to my receipt of your Excellency's letter; but before my instructions to Major Baillie on that subject were prepared, I had the satisfaction to learn, by a communication from that officer, that your Excellency had permitted Hyder Bukhsh to depart from Lucknow. This happy termination of the affair renders it unnecessary to pursue the subject further.

However repugnant to your Excellency's feelings may have been the agitation of the questions above referred to, I am unable, as I have already stated, to perceive any thing in Major Baillie's share of the conference which ought to have given offence to your Excellency.

With regard to what your Excellency states, of Major Baillie's having falsified your words, it is necessary to observe, that the Resident is bound by the obligations of his duty to adopt such measures as will serve to ascertain the real nature of the facts and circumstances of any case which becomes a subject of negotiation and discussion between your Excellency and him, and to state explicitly to your Excellency the result of those measures. It must, therefore, occasionally happen, that the representations of the Resident, deduced from proofs and arguments, in his judgment conclusive, differ from the communications of your Excellency on the same subject. This course of proceeding on the part of the Resident cannot be justly characterized by the expression of "falsifying your Excellency's words;" an expression indicating a rudeness of language, of which I perceive no trace in the correspondence before me, and of which I am satisfied that Major Baillie is incapable.

I am equally at a loss to discover the ground of your Excellency's allegation, that "the wish of the Resident now is to settle all matters in his own way, and "merely to apprise your Excellency of the settlement;" since it is well known to your Excellency, that many arrangements and measures, calculated for your Excellency's benefit and that of your subjects, and for the advantage of the British Government, as affected by the prosperity of the state of Oude, have either been suspended or relinquished, for no other cause than the forbearance which has hitherto been shewn by the British Government in urging your Excellency to comply with requisitions which it is entitled to prefer, and with advice to which your Excellency is bound to conform, but which both directly in letters from myself and through the organ of the Resident have repeatedly been urged in vain. Such forbearance, if carried too far, becomes censurable remissness; but it shews how entirely opposite the facts are to any encroachment on your Excellency's independent authority. I entreat your Excellency to reflect on the consequences of a continued opposition to the just demands, and a persevering disregard of the advice, of the British Government, whether offered directly from myself or through the Resident.

I have deemed it incumbent on me to enter into this explanation, for the purpose of vindicating the conduct of an officer of high and unblemished character who possesses a distinguished place in my confidence and esteem, and whose zeal and activity, in endeavouring to carry into effect the views of the British Government for the promotion of your Excellency's genuine interests and the prosperity of both States, appear unfortunately to have exposed him to your Excellency's displeasure. I trust, however, that deliberating on the sentiments expressed in this letter, and giving a fair and impartial consideration to the

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar. 1618.

Letter from the
Governor-General.

the passages in Major Baillie's written and verbal communications, which form the grounds of your Excellency's complaint, you will see reason to recall the charges of disrespectful and intemperate conduct and language which you have imputed to him.

Having thus replied to the charges against the Resident as they are stated in your Excellency's letter, I proceed to offer such further remarks as have been suggested to my mind by the perusal of your Excellency's answer to the letter addressed to you by the Resident on the 2d of January, and of the Resident's rejoinder.

In your Excellency's reply to Major Baillie you have referred to two specific letters, one on the subject of reform, and one respecting Hyder Bukhsh, as affording proof of disrespect towards your Excellency; and you have referred also to specific occasions of verbal communications with the Resident, in which his language was indicative of resentment. I am compelled to express my dissent from the opinion stated by your Excellency respecting those two letters. With regard to the latter article of charge, it is of course impossible for me to judge of the tone of verbal communications; but I think myself warranted in giving implicit credit to the Resident's assurances and explanations on that head, as contained in his own reply to your Excellency's letter above referred to. On the whole, I cannot allow that your Excellency has succeeded in establishing or enforcing any charge against the Resident, by the more particular statement contained in that letter. To enter into a minute examination of that statement, would be little more than to repeat what I have already represented to your Excellency.

At the commencement of this address I have alluded to a late change in the style and manner of your Excellency's letters to the Resident, as brought to my notice by the correspondence which passed between your Excellency and him, subsequently to his letter to your Excellency of the 2d January, and expressed my intention of adverting to it more particularly. I now proceed to fulfil that intention.

Major Baillie, agreeably to the intimation contained in his letter to your Excellency of the 8th January, has transmitted to me, for inspection, copies of a number of letters from the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, to Mr. Ives and Mr. Lumsden, from those gentlemen to the late Nawaub, from your Excellency to Mr. Lumsden and Colonel Scott, and from the latter to your Excellency. Having directed the proper officer to prepare and submit to me a report on this subject, founded on a careful revision of those documents and a comparison of the style of writing at present employed by your Excellency, and that which your predecessor, and formerly your Excellency yourself, observed in letters to the Resident, I find Major Baillie's statement on that subject, contained in his letter to your Excellency of the 8th of January, to be perfectly accurate. It is demonstratively shewn, that while Major Baillie has scrupulously observed, nay exceeded, the respectful forms of address employed by former Residents, your Excellency has departed entirely from those which were uniformly employed by the late Nawaub, and, in the earlier part of your administration, even by your Excellency yourself, and has assumed a style of address in your letters to the Resident, not only degrading to him but to the Government which he represents.

It is unnecessary to recite the particular expressions, as they occur in your Excellency's letters and those of Major Baillie, on which the above remark is founded. They will be sufficiently obvious to your Excellency's discerning mind, by a comparison of the letters which passed between your Excellency and the present Resident, and the documents which Major Baillie submitted to your Excellency with his letter of the 8th of January.

I regret most sincerely, that a disinclination, on the part of the successive Residents at your Excellency's Court who have been the objects of this indecorous

corous proceeding, to trouble your Excellency on matters of form, should have suffered this evil to continue for such a length of time; but as it has now been brought to the notice of this Government, more especially by means of a complaint on your Excellency's part against its representative, of a want of respect in the language of his letters, I cannot permit it to continue; and your Excellency must allow me to express, in the strongest and most explicit terms, my desire and expectation that you should revert to those observances of respect, which were uniformly practised from the early periods of the intercourse between the two States, until they were set aside by your Excellency's own act.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
5 Mar. 1813.

Letter from
Governor-General.

I consider your Excellency's immediate compliance with this requisition to be essential to the maintenance of the dignity of the British Government and of its accredited representative at your Excellency's Court, and I rely with confidence on your immediate attention to it.

Your Excellency may be assured, that as no just cause of offence has been given to you in this respect hitherto, so the future correspondence of the Resident will always be conducted in strict conformity to those observances of respect and honour which are due to your exalted rank and station, and with every possible regard to your Excellency's feelings, on the points on which it will be his duty to address you.

It only remains to reply to that part of your Excellency's letter which relates to your desire to travel. On that point Major Baillie has been instructed to make known my sentiments to your Excellency; and I have only to state in this place, that when your Excellency shall have made the necessary arrangement for the administration of your Government during your absence, and shall be pleased to apprise me of the time you may fix for your departure, every practicable arrangement shall be made to facilitate the accomplishment of your wishes, and for your honourable reception and entertainment during your progress through the British territories.

Major Baillie has received my instructions on every point comprehended in this letter, and I request your Excellency to consider his representations as proceeding directly from myself, and equally demanding your attention and regard.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. You were apprized, by my despatch of the 22d January, of the intention of the Right Honourable the Governor-General to address his Excellency the Vizier, in reply to the letter from his Excellency which accompanied your despatch of the 4th January. I am now directed to transmit to you the enclosed English draft of his Lordship's letter: the letter itself will be forwarded to you by the Persian Secretary to the Government as soon as it can be prepared.

2. You will observe that the Governor-General has replied specifically to every point of the Vizier's charge against you, and has confirmed and enforced the statement contained in your letters to his Excellency's address of the 2d and 8th January, of which translations accompanied your despatches of the 4th and 11th of that month. His Lordship has also called on the Vizier to revert in his epistolary intercourse with you to the forms of correspondence employed by his predecessors and by himself in the early part of his administration, in addressing the Resident at the Court of Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

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Consultations,
5 Mar. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

3. The sentiments of the Governor-General in Council on the several points embraced in the enclosed document, have been communicated to you in my letter of the 22d, in such detail as to render unnecessary any further observations at present.

4. His Lordship in Council is not aware of any additional arguments or representations on the general subject of the Governor-General's letter which can be urged in confirmation of its contents. You will, however, accompany the delivery of it with such written or verbal communications on your own part, as you may judge to be best suited to the occasion.

5. It was his Lordship's wish to have taken this opportunity of renewing his representations to the Vizier on the subject of the reform of his Excellency's administration, and other points which have been lately agitated with his Excellency, and to reply to the Vizier's letters on those subjects: it has been found absolutely necessary, however, to suspend the further consideration of them until a season of greater leisure. You will observe that they are hinted at in the enclosed document, and you will of course avail yourself of any opportunity of improving the impression which the present letter may be expected to make on his Excellency's mind with reference to those matters.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
5th March 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 Mar. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 19th March 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 20th ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government, the enclosed copies of letters which I have received from the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad and the commanding officers of the troops at Sooltanpore and Pertaubghur, in reply to my communication and instructions to those officers respectively, of the date abovementioned.

2. The circumstances which are stated by Colonel Frith, in his letter of the 5th instant, to my address, though they be neither new nor surprising to me, and have been frequently submitted already to the notice of his Lordship in Council, as well as insisted on to the Vizier, in the course of my correspondence with his Excellency on the important subject of reform, seem nevertheless worthy to be recorded, as an additional and authentic proof of the manifest justice and necessity of the measures recommended to the Vizier in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter of the 28th of December 1810.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th March 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, &c. &c.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 Mar. 1813.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant with its enclosures, and am much gratified to learn the completion of the arrangements therein detailed.

2. Conformably to the desire expressed in the second paragraph of your letter, I have the honour to transmit a list, in the Persian language, of the fugitives from this district, presumed at present to be secreted in his Excellency the Vizier's territories.

Letter
from Magistrate at
Elahabad.

I have, &c.

Zillah Elahabad,
27th February 1813.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Colonel Kyan.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, containing directions regarding the apprehension of delinquents, for the seizure of whom I may receive requisitions from the Magistrate of Elahabad, and enclosing translation of instructions on the subject, issued by his Excellency the Vizier to the Aumils of the neighbouring districts. You may rely on the strictest attention being paid to the directions you have transmitted for my guidance.

I have, &c.

Sooltanpore, Oude,
24th February 1813.

(Signed) F. KYAN,
Colonel, commanding at
Sooltanpore, Oude.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Frith.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, covering a translation of the instructions of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Aumils in this part of the country, on the subject of the apprehension of certain banditti who have been in the practice of infesting the neighbouring districts of Elahabad, and also conveying your own instructions on the same subject, and beg leave to assure you that my best endeavours shall be exerted to accomplish the object in view, in a manner that may be satisfactory to his Excellency, and in conformity with the very liberal authority which has been entrusted to me.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that no intelligence, which could be at all depended upon, has lately been received, either by Lieutenant Ellison or myself, respecting any of the offenders whom the Magistrate at Elahabad wished to have apprehended. It hence appears, that the seizure of Bisna Sing lately, and the active search which has since been made after the others, has driven them out of this part of the country, and I entertain sanguine hopes that the instructions of his Excellency to the Aumils, and the ample authority which you have been pleased to vest me with, will effectually prevent their return, or the recurrence of the depredations in the Elahabad district.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of the last letter I received from Lieutenant Ellison. His other communications lately being of the same tenor, I did not deem it necessary to trouble you with them.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
26th February 1813.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding
at Pertaubghur.

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Consultations,
19 Mar. 1813.

Letter from
Lieutenant Ellison.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Frith, commanding at Pertaubghur.

Sir :

Since I had the pleasure of addressing you last, in continuation of the subject of those banditti, I have not been able to gain the least intelligence of them, although the Hircarrabs inform me that they went all through the district of Sooltanpore, Oude, and in different parts of that country, and through the different jungles, without giving the requisite information; and it now seems, from the intelligence communicated to me from time to time, that they are not in this part of the country or about Sooltanpore, Oude, that I think they must have retreated to some other province for protection.

I have, &c.

Camp at Kulla,
Bhedowlee, 25th February 1813.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLISON,
Lieutenant, commanding a
Detachment.

Letter from
Lieutenant Colonel
Frith.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that in consequence of the Magistrate of Elahabad having signified that the detachment at Kulla Bhedowlee was no longer necessary with the view to the apprehension of certain offenders, Lieutenant Ellison, with the party under his command, has returned to cantonments, having first cautioned the Zemindars and others in that quarter against harbouring, in future, any fugitives from the neighbouring district of Elahabad. The Magistrate's people have also been instructed, whenever they may gain intelligence of any of the offenders, to give information thereof to me without loss of time, when measures will be immediately adopted for their apprehension. The Magistrate has also furnished me with a list and description of the several individuals he wishes to have seized. This, with the orders of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, and the authority with which you have been pleased to invest me, will, I hope, enable me to prevent any cause of complaint in future, in regard to fugitives from the Company's districts. In a conversation which I had with Lieutenant Ellison on his return, he mentioned some particulars regarding the state of the country where he had been posted for the last three months, which I think it proper to communicate to you, although perhaps it may be exceeding the precise line of my duty.

Lieutenant Ellison stated, that the inhabitants of the village of Kulla Bhedowlee, and of all the neighbouring villages, were in the most deplorable state of poverty and distress; that they were generally afflicted with sickness, which appeared to him to arise from the scarcity of food and the badness of the quality of that on which they subsisted, as none of the sepoys or followers of his detachment got ill while he remained there. He also stated, that on his arrival at Kulla Bhedowlee, the children of the village, to the number of about fifty, came out to his camp in a most famished and starving state; that the sepoys of his detachment, from motives of pure humanity, fed them, and continued to feed and employ them in little offices while they remained there, by which means many of their lives were certainly saved, and that when he marched away these children followed the detachment several coss. Lieutenant Ellison further mentioned, that the principal inhabitants of Kulla Bhedowlee and the neighbouring villages represented, that the extreme poverty, misery, and wretchedness which he observed, proceeded from there being no fixed or settled assessment of the revenue, and from the bad faith and oppression of the people employed in collecting it. That when an agreement was made, if the crops proved defective, from a failure of rain or other cause, no remission was made, but the utmost rupee of the agreement exacted, whereby sufficient grain was not left to feed the inhabitants until the next season came round. On the other hand, if the crops proved abundant and the season favourable, the full value was exacted, without any regard to the agreement. Thus, whether the seasons were good or bad, or the crops abundant or otherwise, it made no difference to the inhabitants, who were equally left without the means of subsistence. These exactions were enforced with such rigour, that it was not uncommon for Bramins of respectability

bility to be reduced to such a state of desperation, as in despair to destroy themselves. One of these Bramins Lieutenant Ellison saw, who with a tulwar had made a deep gash in his belly; but his bowels fortunately escaped injury, and his friends saved his life.

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19 Mar. 1813.

Many of the young men belonging to cantonments, who occasionally go out into the country shooting and hunting, have reported that similar complaints have been made to them by the villagers. I am therefore apprehensive, that the above is but too just a picture of the miserable state of the inhabitants of this count ry.

I have, &c.

Pertaubghur,
5th March, 1813.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 26th March 1813.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Mar. 1813.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

My Lord :

1. I have hitherto delayed to address your Lordship in Council in continuation of the subject of my despatches of the 4th and 11th ultimo, or in reply to the important communication of your Lordship's sentiments and commands, which I have recently had the honour of receiving through the medium of the Secretary to Government, in the expectation of receiving from the Vizier a recantation or renewal of his charges of intemperance and disrespect against myself, in the form of a reply to my letter under date the 8th ultimo, and also in the hope of being honoured with a further communication of your Lordship in Council's instructions on the various points of discussion depending with his Excellency the Vizier, accompanied by copies of the answers to his Excellency's letters to your Lordship, dated the 26th August, 8th of September, 1st of December, and 1st of January last.

2. The Vizier would seem determined to commit the issue of his complaint against me, in the decision of your Lordship in Council, to the documents already before you. I have no reason to believe that his Excellency meditates a reply to my letter of the 8th ultimo, though he be necessarily aware of its tendency to disprove his charge of intemperance, and to repel the accusation of disrespect in correspondence, by a well-founded and substantiated charge of offensive deviation, on his own part, from the established forms of address to the representative of the British Government.

3. The exercise of the duties of personal intercourse and official communication, on my part, with his Excellency the Vizier, has suffered no interruption whatever in consequence of his extraordinary complaint; nor has his Excellency been deficient in the observances of personal consideration for me, nor less attentive than usual to my suggestions on the subordinate points of discussion which I have had occasion to bring to his notice.

4. On the contrary, your Lordship in Council will have observed from my recent despatches to the Secretary, dated the 5th and 20th instant, that I have succeeded in effecting an arrangement for the regular supply of the British troops at Seetapore, and consequently at all the other stations in the Vizier's territory; and that I have further, though with much difficulty and after a great deal of vexatious discussion, obtained his Excellency's consent to the employment of our troops in his dominions, on the requisition of the Magistrates of contiguous districts, for the apprehension of offenders against our Government.

5. With the view of exhibiting to your Lordship the unhappy disposition of his Excellency's mind, the character and grounds of his resistance to every
5 F proposal,

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Mar. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

proposal, the most simple, unobjectionable, and salutary, which our Government may have occasion to suggest to him, and the extraordinary difficulties which oppose the successful conduct of the duties of your Lordship's representative at his court, I have the honour of submitting for your perusal translations of a letter and statements received from his Excellency, in answer to my communication of the orders of Government dated the 29th ultimo, and referred to in the concluding paragraph of my despatch of the 20th instant to the Secretary in the Political Department.

6. His Excellency sets out in his statement with an evasion of your Lordship's desire, that his unwarrantable suspicion and jealousy of the measures and counsels of our Government should be disavowed, or the grounds of them explained and substantiated, and he exhibits a view of the proposal for the employment of our troops in his dominions which is obviously erroneous and false; for if the British Government had ever wished or intended to take measures for the apprehension of delinquents in his Excellency's territory without his previous knowledge and consent, the proposal which was the subject of discussion could never obviously have been made to him; and thus the unhappy disposition of his Excellency's mind has perverted a friendly application on the part of our Government for his acquiescence in a just and necessary arrangement, into a premeditated design of carrying that arrangement into effect of its own authority, without his Excellency's knowledge or consent, to the prejudice of his rights as a sovereign.

7. It is, in fact, the right of the British Government to advise and to press its advice upon any point to his Excellency, (unquestionable as this right must be considered under the spirit and letter of the treaty) that has ever been irksome to his Excellency's mind, and to infringe or evade which is his constant aim and pursuit by every means in his power; because that advice must be generally hostile to the gratification of his favourite passions, and because every occasion of his acquiescence, whatever the subject may be, is misrepresented by his evil advisers, or misconstrued by the natural jealousy of his own temper, into a confirmation of the original right of interference in the concerns of his Government, which, according to his conception, has been already essentially impaired, and may be eventually lost by prescription.

8. The exercise of our right to advise is therefore uniformly resisted, as an encroachment on his Excellency's power and authority; and in every case like the present, where a plausible ground for resistance may be wanting, his Excellency does not hesitate to misrepresent the object of our suggestion or advice, as he has done on the present occasion, perverting an application for his consent to the march of a detachment of our troops to a short distance from a frontier station of his territory, for a just and necessary purpose, into a design of "employing our troops without his consent, to carry off any offender from any village or town in his country, nay even from the capital of his dominions."

9. The perverseness and absurdity of a misconstruction or misstatement like this is too apparent to have escaped his Excellency's notice, even at the time when he applied it as an argument; yet he maintained it at our conference on this subject on the 20th ultimo for a very considerable time, and though I frequently begged him to recollect, and ultimately read to him the terms of your Lordship in Council's proposition, which literally assumes for its basis a state of circumstances quite inconsistent with any that could be contemplated in Lucknow, namely, the influence of the misconduct of his Excellency's officers at a distance to defeat the views of our Government, and the purposes of his own orders, in the seizure of public offenders, he still persisted in pretending a belief that his acquiescence in the proposed arrangement would lead to our adoption of similar measures throughout his territory, and even in his capital, under his eye.

10. I asked his Excellency if he considered himself to be bound by the spirit of the subsisting alliance, and by the terms of the arrangement with Marquess Wellesley, to seize and deliver over offenders against our Government who might find refuge in any part of his dominions; and on his answering this question

question in the affirmative, I inquired whether or not he himself, or any other person in his dominions, could doubt his ability to discharge this obligation, with reference to offenders who might at any time be concealed in Lucknow. To this inquiry his Excellency immediately replied, that neither his inclination nor ability could be doubted; and on my pointing to the natural inference from this avowal, namely, his compliance with every requisition for the seizure of delinquents in Lucknow, as superseding both the use and the object of your Lordship in Council's proposition, his Excellency reluctantly departed from the untenable argument which he had urged.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 Mar. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

11. The succeeding paragraphs of his Excellency's statement contain a departure from his original demand of the association of his officers with ours in the execution of the required service, and a requisition, equally injurious, of renewed and specific application, through the circuitous medium of the Resident, for the seizure of every offender, after the place of his concealment should be known.

12. The manifest tendency of this requisition to frustrate your Lordship's views in the arrangement proposed to his Excellency, could scarcely require to be explained. It was, in fact, a direct and unqualified rejection of the only new, and the most essential, part of the proposition contained in the Chief Secretary's despatch of the 21st of August 1812; for his Excellency had never objected to the employment of our troops on specific application being made to him for the seizure of any offender, and the general authority applied for under the recent orders of the Government was the only subject of discussion on which the smallest hesitation had been shewn; so that my consent to his Excellency's proposal, however artfully and plausibly desired, with a view to the preservation of his authority, would have been, in fact, a total dereliction of the arrangement which your Lordship in Council had prescribed. The manner in which this part of the question was ultimately adjusted between us, to the apparent satisfaction of both, has been explained in my despatch to the Secretary under date the 20th instant, and does not require to be repeated.

13. The remark in his Excellency's statement having reference to his rejection of the proposal which was made to him originally by Lord Wellesley and withdrawn by the late Lord Cornwallis, has an obvious tendency to confirm the observation submitted in a preceding paragraph of this despatch, namely, that the Vizier considers every instance of his acquiescence in the counsels of the British Government as a confirmation of, and every occasion of successful resistance to its advice as tending to weaken, our right of interference in his Excellency's concerns.

14. The concluding paragraph of his Excellency's letter is worthy of particular notice. It is the uniform practice of the Vizier to apply his territorial cession to the Honourable Company under the fictitious character of a gratuity, as a set-off against every proposal of our Government, however salutary in its nature and objects, beneficial to his Excellency's Government, and even sanctioned by the letter of the Treaty of Cession, that may operate in the smallest degree against his feelings, caprices, or self-interested and personal views.

15. I have always considered it to be my duty to remonstrate, in unqualified terms, against so strange and so wilful a misconception of the principles of the Treaty of Cession as the above, whenever the Vizier has adduced it; and, on the present occasion, I laboured with more than my usual earnestness, and I trust with considerable success, to convince his Excellency's mind of the weakness and unworthiness of the arguments which are adduced at the close of his statement.

16. Our subsidiary alliances with their Highnesses the Nizam and the Peishwa, I proved to his Excellency to be the same in every respect, in their principle, nature, and beneficial objects to both parties, with the treaty of 1801, concluded between his Excellency and Lord Wellesley. The nature and extent of his Excellency's territorial cession, as of districts originally acquired, with one or two trifling exceptions, by the power of the British arms, and transferred to his Excellency's ancestors, I described as exactly the same with the cessions of

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of the Nizam and the Peishwah ; proportioned, too, in a similar manner, to the amount of the pecuniary subsidy, and the other objects of the alliance, as regulated by former treaties : nay, that the benefits acquired by his Excellency, in exchange for the cession of which he boasted as a gratuity, were decidedly greater and more essential than had accrued to the other States ; and that the only circumstance which was wanting to perpetuate and improve in his possession, and in that of his descendants, the advantages of the treaty of 1801, was his Excellency's cordial concurrence in the necessary measures of reform recommended by your Lordship in Council ; his own performance, in fact, of the only important stipulation of that treaty which now remained to be fulfilled.

17. Of his Excellency's " other acts of friendship during the progress of the " Mahratta war," I observed that it was by no means my wish to detract from the merit of those services, which the Government had acknowledged in suitable terms as they occurred, and would always be disposed to compensate by similar demonstrations of friendship ; but that the question which we were then engaged in discussing was obviously not of a nature to admit of such arguments as those, since his Excellency's obligation by treaty to apprehend and deliver over marauders and other offenders against our Government finding refuge within his dominions, was not to be compromised or set aside by any gratuitous acts which he had the option of performing or not ; and, on the other hand, the protection of our subjects against those marauders, by requiring a fulfilment of his obligation, was a positive duty on our part, which no consideration of friendship for his Excellency could ever entitle us to neglect.

18. Having thus disposed of the whole of his Excellency's statement, in a manner that seemed to convince him of the inefficacy of the arguments which it contained, I animadverted on the nature of his comments on the substance of the several documents conveyed to me by the Secretary's despatch under date the 29th ultimo, and translated for his Excellency's perusal. The sole object and the obvious tendency of those documents, I observed, was to exhibit and to prove to his Excellency the ready and cheerful acquiescence of their Highnesses the Nizam and Dowlut Rao Scindia, in proposals, on the part of our Government, exactly similar to those which his Excellency had so often rejected ; while the grounds of our proposal to his Excellency were manifestly stronger than the others, since the injuries which the arrangement under discussion was intended and calculated to remove had been borne and submitted to patiently for a period of ten years, under every circumstance of aggravation, and without any hope of redress, save by the measures that we had ultimately suggested to his Excellency, and which had been proposed to the other States and acquiesced in, on the first occasion of a necessity for resorting to them. Could this observation, I asked, be refuted by his Excellency's comments ; and if not, to what purpose did they tend ? Could the united substance of his Excellency's letter to my address, and of the declaration and statement which it conveyed, be viewed by his Excellency, on reflection, in the light of a satisfactory reply to my letter conveying a translation of the orders of Government and of the documents referred to in those orders ; or as a just cause, or even plausible pretext for his Excellency's continued resistance to the arrangement, which those orders prescribed, which I had proved to be necessary and unexceptionable, and which other States less closely connected with our Government than his Excellency's had readily and cheerfully agreed to, on the first occasion of its being proposed to them ? The association and co-operation of the Nizam's officers and troops, or those of Scindia, with the officers of our Government, in the pursuit and suppression of marauders, had never been insisted on by his Highness the Nizam or by Dowlut Rao, as a condition of their acquiescence in our views ; nor had this co-operation on the part of the other States been even ascertained to be injurious, as established by repeated experience, with a reference to marauders in Oude. In the instance of the Nizam, indeed, it was doubted whether or not a requisition for the aid of his troops, and a communication with his Highness's officers, were expedient ; and, accordingly, it was left to the discretion of the British officers to make that

that requisition or not, without any objection whatever on the part of his Highness's Government, exactly as suggested by me with a reference to his Excellency's officers, whom his Excellency had insisted on uniting in the execution of the service proposed, to the manifest prejudice of its object. In the instance of Scindia, again, the deputation of an officer of his Government to attend a detachment of our troops, proceeded on the Resident's application, and by no means on Scindia's desire; while the contrast between Scindia's conduct and his Excellency's, in regard to another, and a far more essential point, the admission of our troops into his territory, was deserving of particular remark. A jealousy on the part of Dowlut Rao Scindia, with a reference to a measure like this, might have deserved consideration and indulgence, on grounds which it was unnecessary to explain, and which his Excellency knew to be inconsistent with British principles or faith, as well as to be totally inapplicable to the terms of our alliance with him, whose territory, power, and authority, we were bound to protect and maintain, and whose true interests were all identified with our own. I intreated his Excellency to reconsider the nature and tendency of the remarks with which he had thus again attempted to oppose the just and necessary arrangement proposed by your Lordship for his acquiescence, and to hesitate ere he permitted me to record the ultimate grounds of his resistance, contained in the documents before me, to a measure entirely unexceptionable, and to which further resistance was unavailing, since his Excellency was fully aware of the necessity of my carrying it into effect, with or without his concurrence, in the course of that very day.

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19. His Excellency had scarcely interrupted me during the whole of the preceding discourse, and he now made a pitiful appeal to what he termed the paramount power and authority of your Lordship's Government, declaring that he had neither the wish nor ability to oppose it, and that your Lordship might do what you pleased; but that, foreseeing the total annihilation of his own power by the adoption of the measures proposed, he could never willingly consent to them. I replied that, if such were his genuine sentiments, after hearing all the arguments which I had adduced to convince him that his fears were imaginary, any further discussion must be vain, and that I should immediately, though with real reluctance, proceed, in the execution of my duty, to issue the orders which were prepared to the commanding officers of our troops at the several stations on the frontier.

20. I then made a signal to get up, but his Excellency seemed unwilling to leave me in the determination which I had thus finally announced to him, and he begged me again to consider whether or not it were possible to reconcile the execution of the orders of Government with the preservation of his consequence and authority, and to act as his friend on the occasion. I answered, that they were perfectly reconcilable, and indeed could never be at variance, since your Lordship's orders and views were uniformly directed to the maintenance of his Excellency's just authority over his subjects and dominions, as well as to the mutual and more essential advantages of his Excellency's Government and your own; and that his Excellency had only to reconsider dispassionately the tenor of the original proposal, and the grounds on which it was supported, to be satisfied of the truth of this remark; that his Excellency had frequently admitted his obligation to execute of his own authority the service which we had required of him, namely, the seizure and surrender of criminals; that he had as frequently avowed his inclination to perform this duty; and that the measures which we had proposed to him were, in fact, proposed with the view of supporting his Excellency's authority, of enabling him, by the aid of our troops, to discharge an avowed obligation which he had no other means of fulfilling.

21. He now took up the Persian copies of instructions to our officers and his Aumils, which I had prepared for his perusal, and I begged him to say if there were any thing in the terms of those instructions to which he could reasonably object. He answered, that the general nature of them was the principal cause of his objection; that they did not specify any particular offender to be seized, any time at which the troops were to move on this service, nor, in short, any

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particular purpose or place to which the operations of our troops in his dominions should be limited.

22. I replied, that there could be no motive whatever, on the part of our government, for withholding information on those points, under any circumstances, from his Excellency, nor even from the officers of his Government, save a well-grounded fear of the connivance of the latter with offenders, so as to frustrate the object in view. But that, in fact, the particular information which his Excellency seemed to require was not now in the possession of any one, and could only be gradually obtained by the Magistrates of contiguous districts, whose spies would be employed to discover the places of the offender's concealment, and who would issue their requisitions to commanding officers, and convey the necessary information to me, to be submitted to his Excellency at the very same instant of time; so that his Excellency might always be informed of the intended movement of the troops and its object, before the actual movement took place.

23. The Vizier took advantage of this suggestion on my part, to renew his original demand of a specific application from the Magistrate, through me, for his consent to the employment of our troops, on every occasion of the discovery of the place of an offender's concealment; observing, that as I had now agreed to inform him of the Magistrate's requisition and its object, and as I could have no doubt of his Excellency's fidelity on those occasions, the Magistrate's requisition might, without any injury, proceed through the usual channel of the Resident, after obtaining his Excellency's consent. To this proposal I objected in the calmest possible manner, although irritated by his Excellency's perverseness, submitting the manifest disadvantage and the total inutility of delay, as well as the probability of a disclosure of the circumstances to be communicated by the Magistrate, from their passing through so many offices and becoming known to a number of persons, before the execution of the service required or the movement of the troops for that purpose.

24. His Excellency sullenly replied that "he was helpless," or used words to that effect; and on a second signal from me we got up and proceeded to the door, where he commenced another pitiful complaint, and deplored in a manner unmanly and unbecoming, with tears in his eyes, the unhappy situation in which he was placed, unwilling, as well as unable, to contend with your Lordship on any point, and yet incapable of reconciling to his feelings the arrangement which your Lordship had proposed.

25. I now perceived, or thought that I perceived in his Excellency's countenance and manner, a serious apprehension of the consequences of any further resistance to our views; and I took advantage of this state of his feelings, by begging him to reflect on the extraordinary forbearance of the Government, not only on this question but also on a number of others, on which our advice had been offered to his Excellency in the genuine spirit of friendship, and with the purest possible motives, and had been treated with total disregard. The justice and necessity of the employment of our troops, in the only effectual manner, for the seizure of offenders against our Government finding refuge and protection in this country, had been apparent for a series of years, had been frequently urged and demonstrated to his Excellency in the most amicable manner and by irrefragable proofs, and we were ultimately now reduced to the alternative of conniving at the pillage of our subjects in every district of our territory contiguous to his Excellency's dominions, or adopting measures for their redress in direct opposition to his will. Was this a state of things to have been contemplated between the British Government and that of Oude? could such a state of circumstances exist between them for any protracted period of time? and if the unhappy result of the present discussion with his Excellency should extend to but a few of the other questions that were still depending and unsettled, did his Excellency contemplate the consequences? and to whom were those consequences to be ascribed? I stated my extreme reluctance, on obvious grounds, to notice any part of the letter which his Excellency had recently addressed to your Lordship, till an answer to that letter should be received; but the extraordinary contrast and inconsistency of the expressions at the close

close of that letter, with his Excellency's uniform conduct of late years, and more particularly on the present occasion, were by far too striking to be overlooked. He had entreated your Lordship not to view him as on a footing with any other of the princes of India, but as entirely obedient to you in all things; and he had now afforded an example of the manner of his obedience to your will, by resisting to the last a most salutary and unexceptionable arrangement, no sooner proposed than acquiesced in by two other princes of India less closely allied to us than himself.

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26. The Vizier seemed greatly affected by the tendency of the foregoing remark. He led me again to the table, and begged me to decide for him as a friend what was proper to be done on this occasion. He wanted nothing but information of the measures proposed before they should be carried into execution: even the names of the offenders to be seized, and the places of their supposed concealment, would suffice; and he would pledge himself never to make them known under any circumstances whatever. I answered, that I saw no objection whatever to his being furnished with a general list of all the offenders and fugitives from each of the districts in our dominions contiguous to his Excellency's territory, before any requisition should be issued by the Magistrate of the district in question to our commanding officer at the frontier post; but that a specification of the place of concealment of any particular offender, or an application, through a circuitous channel, for the seizure of that offender after the place of his concealment should be known, was totally out of the question, and must prove in practice a dereliction of the object of our original proposal to his Excellency.

27. At length, with apparent cordiality, his Excellency was pleased to accept of the degree of information which I offered, and desired me to give him, in writing, a statement of what I proposed. I accordingly committed to writing, in the Persian language, and delivered to his Excellency, an agreement in the following terms: "It is now finally settled, that the Resident's instructions to commanding officers, and the Vizier's orders to his Aumils, agreeably to the copies prepared, shall be issued this day or to-morrow; that the Resident shall require from the Magistrates, and present to his Excellency the Vizier, general lists of the names of all fugitives and offenders, whose apprehension may be required, and until the list of offenders in each district be delivered to his Excellency, the movement of the troops shall not take place. His Excellency, on the other hand, voluntarily offers and promises, never to impart to any of the officers of his Government the names of the offenders in question; and the above rules shall be observed on every future occasion, in the case of new offenders arising, whom it may be the wish of the Magistrates to seize. A list of their names shall be forwarded, before requisitions for their seizure be issued."

28. In this manner, your Lordship in Council will observe, by my concession of a puerile and unmeaning request on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, which his Excellency might have offered with equal success at the commencement, a most vexatious discussion has been terminated, and the object of your Lordship in Council's instructions fulfilled.

29. On a review of this voluminous detail of my conference of the 20th instant with the Vizier, I feel some degree of hesitation in trespassing on your Lordship's time by transmitting it for your perusal; yet, under an idea that as descriptive of the uniform character of the Vizier's vexatious proceedings during a period of several years, and of the unhappy perverseness of his disposition in every discussion with our Government, it may not be destitute of use, I discharge a duty in submitting it.

30. My proceedings with reference to this arrangement, both before and after the conference, have been already reported to your Lordship, through the medium of the Secretary to Government.

31. I have now the honour to acknowledge my receipt of the Secretary's despatch under date the 22d ultimo, containing a communication of your Lordship in Council's sentiments and commands on the subject of the Vizier's complaint.

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from Resident at
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plaint, and the several questions connected with it ; to express my cheerful and grateful concurrence in the justice of all the remarks which your Lordship has made on my conduct ; and to offer a solemn assurance, that those remarks shall form the guide of my future proceedings.

32. My despatch to the Secretary to Government, under date the 16th ultimo, will have served to explain to your Lordship, the delicate and embarrassing predicament in which I was necessarily placed, with a reference to the case of Hyder Bukhsh, and will have constituted an additional apology for the unintentional error of my conduct regarding that person's departure from Lucknow. In ascribing those errors to their true motive, your Lordship in Council has been pleased to do me all the justice that I could desire.

33. I await with considerable anxiety the receipt of your Lordship's answers to the several letters from the Vizier which are noticed in the commencement of this despatch, and a communication of your Lordship in Council's sentiments and commands on the various subjects of those letters. The deplorable case of her Highness the younger Begum at Elahabad in particular, which forms the principal subject of two of those letters, seems to merit your early consideration, and to require the adoption of more efficient measures than have hitherto been tried, with a view to the satisfaction of her Highness's just claims by her unkind and illiberal brother.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
28th February 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 19th February 1813.)

No. 1.

The translation of the orders of Government to your address, and of its enclosures, with the draft of instructions to Aumils, has been perused by the Presence, and therefore a paper, in the form of a declaration, and another containing the sentiments and wishes of the Presence, with a correct draft of the instructions to Aumils, are now sent for your perusal, enclosed in this shookha. After having attentively and deliberately perused the above documents, you will clearly submit to the Presence whether my requests can be acceded to or not.

No. 2.

In the translation of the orders of Government, regarding the apprehension of delinquents, it is stated that the nature and grounds of my unwarrantable suspicion and jealousy should be distinctly avowed, and substantiated by some satisfactory proof. The case is this : The only point in dispute, with a reference to this subject, is the following. The British Government wishes to adopt measures for the apprehension of delinquents, marauders, and offenders against that Government in my country, without my previous knowledge, and the Presence wishes that the above measures should be carried into effect with its previous knowledge and consent, and thus that the accomplishment of the wish of your Government, which will prove highly gratifying to the Presence, be effected in such a manner as to preserve the power and authority of the Presence as heretofore, with the assistance of the Honourable Company. Now, if the British troops stationed in my dominions shall, without the knowledge or consent of the Presence, seize and carry away any person whom they wish, from any village or town belonging to my country, nay even from Lucknow itself, and the Presence, like every other inhabitant of the country, from the want of previous information be ignorant of the object of those proceedings, it is obvious that my power and authority are at an end, and that dominion, under such circumstances, can have no charms for me whatever. A detailed statement of the nature and grounds of this remark, or of proofs to substantiate it, is evidently unnecessary.

With regard, again, to what is written, that " the commanding officers of the British troops be authorized, on their receipt of intelligence from you or from the Magistrates, accompanied by certain information of the hiding places

“ places of public offenders, to detach the troops under their command for the apprehension of such offenders, without any communication with my officers.” If it be the wish of your Government to preclude my officers and Aumils from any knowledge or participation in your measures, this may be accomplished in the following manner, without any hindrance to the object in view, namely: on every occasion, when the Magistrate of a contiguous district may write to you, to inform you that the seizure of a particular offender is required, and request you to issue your orders to a commanding officer to comply with the Magistrate’s requisition for the apprehension of such an offender, on his being pointed out by the Magistrate, you submit the application of the Magistrate, in the first instance, to the Presence, when permission will be granted by the Presence for your issuing your orders to the commanding officer, agreeably to the Magistrate’s request, and thus the desire of the Company’s Government will be fulfilled, and similar orders may be issued for the seizure of fugitives from my Government. If you consent to this arrangement, let me know; and it will certainly accomplish the desire of your Government, as well as preserve the power and authority of the Presence.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

When the Most Noble Marquess Wellesley proposed that the British troops should enter the dominions of the Presence in pursuit of fugitives from the British territory, and that, in like manner, the troops of the Presence might enter the British territories in pursuit of defaulters against this Government, this proposal was rejected by the Presence, although perfectly equal on both sides.

From the translations of the letters enclosed and referred to in the orders of Government, nothing satisfactory can be decided, because the previous circumstances connected with them are unknown, nor can these documents form any precedents for the Presence. What concern has the Presence in the affairs of others, and what comparison or resemblance can exist between the affairs of the Presence and those of others? Through friendship and unity alone I acceded to the wishes of your Government, and proved my obedience to its will, by ceding a portion of my country and disbanding the whole of my troops, besides other acts of friendship which took place during the operations against the fortress of Bhurtpore, &c.

No. 3.

In the translation of Mr. Russell’s letter to Mr. Tod, the Magistrate of Masulipatam, dated the 8th January 1813, it is stated that, “ there is no objection on the part of the Nizam’s Government to the employment of our troops to seize the persons of the freebooters mentioned in your letter,” &c. to the end of the paragraph. From the above sentence it is evident that a particular list of the names of the marauders must have been inserted in Mr. Tod’s letter, and that the seizure of Ashwa Rao was desired by the Nizam himself.

From the next paragraph of Mr. Russell’s letter to Mr. Tod, enclosing orders from the minister to Meer Hedayet Alee, the Talookadar of Khummumet, directing him “ to obey any orders which he might receive from the officer commanding the troops,” &c. (recapitulate), it is to be inferred that a particular communication was made to, and permission obtained from the Nizam, before the orders in question were issued.

With a reference to the last paragraph of the above letter, in which the Resident states that “ he has thought it better not to ask for the assistance of the Nizam’s horse nor to make any communication,” &c. to the end. Mr. Russell in this paragraph has merely expressed his own thoughts and suspicions regarding the people in question.

In the translation of Mr. Tod’s Letter to the Secretary in the judicial department, Fort St. George, dated the 22d December 1812, it is written, that “ it is notoriously known that they are countenanced and protected by a Zemindar called Ashwa Rao,” &c. It is also stated, that “ if it should not be deemed expedient to proceed against Ashwa Rao, a party of horse should be employed,” &c. The first sentence is merely expressive of Mr. Tod’s opinion, and the second suggests the co-operation to the Nizam’s cavalry in the apprehension of the marauders.

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from the Vizier.

In the translation of the letter from the Resident with Dowlut Rao Scindia to his Lordship's address, dated the 12th September 1812, it is written, that his "Highness deputed a huzooreah," &c. It is further stated, that "it was settled that our (the British) troops should have liberty to cross into the Maharajah's territory, for the apprehension of such violaters of the peace," &c. and further, that "the Subadar of Gwalior was directed to afford every aid in his power," &c.

Now the Presence, in like manner, has no objection whatever to appoint a person, for the purpose of co-operating in such measures as may be adopted for the ease of the British subjects and tranquillity of the country, nor to issue any orders which are required to the several Aumils. But with regard to the British troops entering my dominions in pursuit of robbers, &c. as there were no British troops in the Maharajah's country, if he did not accede to their coming, what else could he do? Whereas, in my country, British troops are already stationed, and these are sufficient for the punishment or seizure of all the offenders in question.

In the translation of Mr. Strachey's letter to Mr. Adam it is stated, that "in the uncertainty whether my communications," &c. (recapitulate). In this letter, the co-operation of Dowlut Rao Scindia and his officers is apparent and manifest.

In the translation of Mr. Strachey's letter to Mr. Hallied, Assistant to the Magistrate of zillah Agrah and Etawah, dated the 27th October 1812, it is written, "I requested that his Highness would send a party of horse to co-operate with them, in which his Highness immediately acquiesced," &c. Co-operation is also evident from this sentence.

Again, in the translation of the orders issued by Maharajah Dowlut Rao Scindia to Bhugwunt Rao, the Naib of the Subadar of Gwalior, dated the 27th of October 1812, the place of the rebel Lollgie's residence, and the names of the villages whose Zemindars concealed and protected him are specified, and from the tenor of the above order it is clear that his Highness's permission must have been previously asked and obtained.

From the translation of Mr. Strachey's letter to Mr. Hallied, dated the 30th of October 1812, it appears that an application was made by him to the Maharajah for a letter to his Highness's Aumil of Omree.

From ditto to ditto, dated the 1st of November 1812, previous application and co-operation are apparent.

From Mohoroba Hurry's letter to Lalla Lokeman, dated the 1st November 1812, aid and co-operation are very clear and apparent.

In the translation of Mr. Strachey's letter to Mr. Hallied, dated 3d November 1812, previous application, co-operation, and great degree of consideration for Scindia are obvious.

From the translation of Mr. Strachey's letter to Captain Popham, dated the 20th November 1812, the orders issued by Dowlut Rao Scindia for the aid, assistance, and co-operation of his officers in the punishment of offenders are evident.

From the translation of orders issued by Dowlut Rao Scindia to Khundoo Huzooreah, dated the 20th November 1812, the aid and co-operation, &c. of his officers are also very clear.

The orders issued to Ramchund, Koomasdar of Omree, are in similar terms to the orders issued to Khundoo Huzooreah.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Major Bajlie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, under date the 28th ultimo, principally relating to the arrangement which has been finally settled with His Excellency the Vizier for the pursuit and seizure of delinquents within his Excellency's dominions, with a detail of the conference which you held with his Excellency on that subject on the 20th of the same month.

2. The Governor-General in Council directs me to state, that the perusal of the report of your conference with his Excellency the Vizier has impressed him with a high sense of the address and ability with which it was conducted on your part. His Lordship in Council's approbation of the judgment and firmness which you have uniformly manifested during the whole course of this long and vexatious negotiation, and with which you have now brought it to a successful termination, has already been signified to you in a letter of the 5th instant.

3. On the other topics alluded to in the concluding paragraph of your despatch above acknowledged, you will receive a communication of his Lordship in Council's sentiments at a future period, when the pressure of other important public affairs shall admit of the subjects to which they refer being taken into his Lordship in Council's consideration.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
26th March 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Read again a despatch from the Resident at Lucknow, under date the 20th ultimo, recorded on the proceedings of the 5th instant, transmitting copies of circular letter addressed to officers commanding British troops in the Vizier's dominions, of instructions issued by the Vizier to his Aumils, and of a letter to the Magistrate of Elahabad, on the subject of seizing robbers and marauders who find shelter within his Excellency's territories.

Read also a despatch from the Resident at Lucknow, under date the 22d ultimo, recorded on the proceedings of the, transmitting a copy of a letter addressed to the Judge and Magistrate of Bareilly on the same subject.

Ordered, That copies of the enclosures in the abovementioned despatches from the Resident at Lucknow be recorded for information in the Judicial Department.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 15th May 1813.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord :

1. Your Lordship's letter to the address of his Excellency the Vizier, under date the 5th of March last, in reply to his Excellency's letter of the 1st January, was received from the Persian Department on the 27th ultimo. My desire of being furnished with a copy of the Persian Secretary's report on the forms of correspondence with the Vizier, to be submitted to his Excellency in explanation of a portion of your Lordship's letter, having reference to that subject, induced me to postpone the delivery of the letter to the Vizier until the morning of the 13th instant, when I announced my intention of breakfasting with his Excellency for this purpose.

2. The Vizier was prevented by a slight indisposition from receiving my visit on the morning of the 13th instant, and his Excellency did me the honour to breakfast with me on the morning of the following day.

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

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3. I prefaced the delivery of the letter by referring to my usual practice of reading in his Excellency's presence all letters on subjects of importance, with the delivery of which I might be charged under the orders of the Governor-General, and I explained the cause of my departure from that practice on the present occasion to be the delicate nature of the principal subject of the letter, as it related to my own character and conduct. I begged his Excellency to reconsider the grounds of his complaint against me, and your Lordship's sentiments regarding them, in a calm and dispassionate manner; and I expressed my reliance on his Excellency's justice and impartiality, for his ultimate acquiescence in the judgment which your Lordship in Council had pronounced. I begged him to be assured of my disposition to take no other advantage of your Lordship's decision in my favour, than that of renewing my ardent endeavour to cultivate his Excellency's good-will and to promote the honour of his Government; and I ventured with confidence to predict to him, that the result of his late misconception of my expressions and motives would prove the means of a more cordial friendship between us, and of our more ready concurrence than heretofore in the measures and views of each other. I adverted to his Excellency's indisposition of the preceding day, as a cause for my limiting the business of that interview to the delivery of your Lordship's letter, and for refraining from any discussion on the merits of the questions at issue, as they were treated or referred to in your Lordship's instructions to me.

4. There was one question, however, which I stated to his Excellency to require my immediate notice, with a view to the proper regulation of the forms of correspondence between us, in order that no interruption of our official correspondence might take place, and that his Excellency might at once be apprised of the terms on which alone I was authorized to receive his letters in future. His Excellency could not require to be informed, that a striking alteration had been made in the manner of his written communications with the British Resident at his durbar, shortly after his accession to the musnud; nor could it be necessary for me to repeat the observations which his Excellency would find in your Lordship's reply to his letter, on the manifest impropriety of that change which I was disposed to ascribe to the ignorance or negligence of his Moonshees, rather than to a want of consideration on his own part for the station of Representative of the British Government at his Court. I stated to him, that a similar departure from the established forms of correspondence with the Resident had been noticed on the part of the Bhow Begum, and that I was prepared, under the spirit of your Lordship in Council's instructions, to make an application to her Highness on this subject, exactly similar to that which it was now my duty to urge for his Excellency's immediate acquiescence. As explanatory at greater length, and in explicit detail, of the remarks and requisition contained in your Lordship's letter to his Excellency, I presented and referred to a translation of the Persian Secretary's report, which I begged his Excellency to peruse with attention, and by adopting the suitable style which it suggested, to save me the unpleasant and delicate task of reciting in his Excellency's presence, those exceptionable terms and expressions which could no longer be admitted in our correspondence.

5. His Excellency now took his leave, carrying with him the letter and report, and I announced my intention to wait on him in the course of a few days, proposing Saturday the 17th instant at breakfast, for the purpose of learning the result of his deliberation on the subjects of the letter.

6. I attended his Excellency on Saturday, and had a conference with him of considerable length. The object of my attendance I described to be partly that of learning from his Excellency the result of his attentive perusal of your Lordship's reply to his letter, and partly to communicate to his Excellency the substance of your Lordship's instructions, which accompanied the transmission of it to me. Yet the tenor of the letter itself, I observed, was so explicit and comprehensive on every question, as to supersede illustration on my part, and to preclude the necessity or use of my submitting additional arguments, in confirmation of any point which it urged. In as far as I was personally concerned, it seemed totally unnecessary to say any thing. Your Lordship, aware of the delicacy of my entering into a personal discussion with his Excellency of the grounds of his complaint against myself, had relieved me from that painful necessity.

necessity, by conveying a specific and satisfactory reply to every one of his Excellency's charges of intemperance, anger or disrespect, and of unwarrantable encroachment on his authority. You had further found it necessary, after mature consideration and investigation of his Excellency's charge of disrespect in the forms of correspondence on my part, to require from his Excellency's justice, in vindication of the dignity of your Government, an immediate and entire change in the style of his letters to your Representative, which I was instructed to urge and persist in demanding from his Excellency, till the object of the requisition should be fulfilled. On this point it was therefore my duty to announce to his Excellency at once, in the plainest and most decided manner, that my instructions were final and express, and that I was no longer at liberty to receive any written communications from his Excellency, which might contain an exceptionable term, or an expression unauthorized by the ancient forms of correspondence established between his Excellency's predecessors, and the former Residents at Lucknow.

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7. With a reference to all the other points in dispute, I observed that his Excellency's letter to your Lordship, dated the 26th of August last, in answer to your Lordship's letter of the 8th of May, in which those questions were particularly discussed, would have been replied to directly, long ere now, if the attention of the Government had not been constantly occupied by other matters of equal importance, and requiring greater deliberation than those; since the deliberate judgment of the Government, on every question depending with his Excellency, had already been formed and conveyed to him, and what remained with a reference to him, could be no more than a final endeavour to operate a conviction in his mind of the necessity of his early compliance with our just and reasonable requisitions, his acquiescence in our salutary advice.

8. For this purpose, it seemed sufficient, on my part, to request his particular attention to a few of the impressive remarks contained in your Lordship's letter. In that letter his Excellency was explicitly told, that your Lordship could never desist from urging to a satisfactory conclusion every one of the questions that were pending. He was further entreated to reflect on the consequences of his continued opposition to your Lordship's most reasonable demands, his persevering disregard of your counsels; and in the conclusion of the letter he was apprized that your Lordship's instructions to me comprehended every point in discussion, were conclusive on every question in dispute, and therefore that my representations should be considered as proceeding directly from your Lordship, and equally demanding his regard.

9. Proceeding on the natural belief, that the impression of remarks such as those, must be productive of his ready acquiescence in the suggestions that I should now have to offer, I commenced with a recapitulation of the grounds on which his Excellency's consent to the arrangement in behalf of the younger Begum was so strongly recommended, and so earnestly desired by your Lordship. The orders of the Government on this subject, under date the 26th of February, had been submitted for his Excellency's perusal. Your Lordship in Council's sentiments on the nature of his Excellency's opposition to the only satisfactory adjustment of the Begum's claims that could be devised, had been explicitly conveyed to him by me, and the inevitable consequence of his persisting in that opposition was all that remained to be stated to him. The condition of the Begum's consent to the transfer of her jagier to his Excellency, even at its fullest value, was the commutation, at a reasonable rate, of the supplies of her kitchen for money. The sum of one hundred rupees per diem was the lowest rate that could be fixed, without a sacrifice of her Highness's comfort as well as a compromise of her just right, and it remained for his Excellency to decide whether he would accept of the immediate transfer of the jagier at a valuation of its produce, to be made as originally suggested by me, on the condition annexed to it by the Begum, or acquiesce in her Highness's desire to commit the management of her jagier to the charge of the British Government, granting still an allowance to her Highness in lieu of the supply of provisions, to such extent as might be proved to be the actual value of that supply.

10. His Excellency interrupted me here, and referred to a short correspondence which had recently passed between us on the subject of her Highness's claims.

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claims. The result of this recent correspondence, as now explained by his Excellency, was a solemn promise, on his part, to refer the amount of the allowance in lieu of the Begum's provisions to my decision entirely, and to receive the verbal declarations of the revenue officers of the jagier to be summoned to his Presence for that purpose, in confirmation of the written statements of its produce, and of the actual charges of collection, which should regulate the amount of the stipend to be fixed in lieu of the jagier. I have, therefore, the satisfaction of announcing to your Lordship in Council, that two of the most vexatious questions depending between the Vizier and the younger Begum may be considered as finally adjusted, unless his Excellency may be suspected of a design to depart from his solemn assurance, which at present I do not apprehend.

11. With a reference to the elder Begum, I now remarked to his Excellency, that your Lordship's reply to his letter left me little to add on the subject of the adjustment of her Highness's claims. His Excellency was explicitly told, that the British Government not only possesses the right, but is under a positive obligation, to investigate and determine all disputes between him and her Highness the Begum; and, in pursuance of this declaration, it was now my duty to require from his Excellency's justice and good faith, his concurrence with her Highness the Begum in referring their respective claims for disputed villages in Bhinga, and all other matters in dispute, to my investigation and decision, or to the judgment of your Lordship in Council, on receiving a report of my proceedings.

12. The Vizier referred me, on this occasion, to a letter which he had recently written on the subject of the Begum's demands, and which I had not hitherto had leisure to peruse, in which his Excellency had assured me of his readiness to abide by my decision on all the questions in dispute. This assurance has since been repeated, and I have every reason to consider the most important and most troublesome of the questions depending between the Vizier and the Begum as in a train of satisfactory adjustment.

13. Regarding the case of Mal Tewaree and other sepoys and dependants of the Honourable Company's Government in Oude, a discussion of considerable length took place between his Excellency and me at the conference which is now reported. I pointed out to his Excellency, and proved, the manifest injustice and oppression of the means which were uniformly resorted to by the Aumils of this Government for evading the claims of the sepoys, and the redress of the wrongs which they sustain. "A person is thrown into confinement, the whole of his property seized, nay his house is plundered and burnt by the order of a rapacious Aumil without any just cause or pretext, or at all events without legal trial, and he lingers in a prison in irons till his case be reported to the Presence. If a dependant of the Company's Government, I remonstrate with your Excellency in his behalf, the prisoner is necessarily released, and the Aumil is summoned to the Presence. He denies his rapacity of course, and your Excellency calls on me for evidence, not only of the act of oppression, which is self-evident in the appearance of the oppressed, but also for proof by witnesses of his original possession, and actual robbery by the Aumil, of every article of property in his house, to found a claim for the restitution of that property, or even for a compensation of the loss. Is such evidence in the nature of things to be procured? and who, but the wife and children of the aggrieved, could be witnesses of the loss which he suffered, could identify any article of his property, could substantiate any portion of his claim? But your Excellency or your lawyers will tell me, that the wives or children of the plaintiff are not to be witnesses in his cause, and thus the unfortunate Mal Tewaree, after suffering a grievous imprisonment, being robbed of every article that he possessed, and awaiting at your Excellency's gate for a period of more than a year the redress of his manifold wrongs, is to be dismissed without any redress; and why? for the want of evidence to substantiate injuries and losses which the Aumil has partially acknowledged, and which are known to all the people of the district; because no one will give evidence against the Aumil; and because the particular articles plundered

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" can only be known to relations, whose evidence your Excellency would reject."

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14. His Excellency listened with attention to the above and to many other arguments which I adduced in behalf of our sepoy; and at length an arrangement was concluded, under which there seems every probability of effectual redress of the grievances, not only of Mal Tewaree, Naik, but of every other dependant of our Government who may complain of such injuries in future. It was settled, that on every future occasion of such oppressive proceedings as those on the part of his Excellency's Aumils, or of the seizure of any part of the property of a sepoy, on whatever pretext, the declaration of the plaintiff on oath to the extent or value of his property seized, without any specification of the articles or testimony of witnesses in his behalf, shall be received as proof against the Aumil, who shall be immediately compelled to repay the amount of the sepoy's loss to the full extent of his declaration.

15. I now called his Excellency's attention to the only remaining questions which are hinted at in your Lordship's letter: the reform of the system of his administration, including that of the police of his capital, and the cases of Hoossein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckie. On these questions I observed to his Excellency, that there was every reason to expect another strong and direct remonstrance from your Lordship in the course of a very short time, unless the necessity for it should be happily superseded by his Excellency's acquiescence in the suggestion which I was instructed to offer under your Lordship's authority, and in your name. The arguments on both sides of each of the questions referred to, had long ago been exhausted, and his Excellency, seemingly aware of the weakness of those maintained by himself, had found it necessary to commit the decision to your Lordship's ultimate judgment, by which he had promised to abide. Of your Lordship in Council's deliberate judgment on each and all of the questions at issue, I did not hesitate to assure the Vizier that he was already in ample possession, and that no argument in his Excellency's letter of the 26th of August, nor any other to be hereafter adduced, could alter your Lordship's opinion, nor induce you to discontinue your efforts for the accomplishment of the objects in view. It remained for his Excellency to determine whether he should await another and a stronger declaration to this effect from your Lordship, or anticipate what might prove unpleasant to his feelings, by receiving this assurance from me, and acting on it by my friendly suggestion.

16. On the concluding paragraph of your Lordship's letter to his Excellency, having reference to his disposition to travel, I thought it useless to offer any remarks, unless the subject of it should be revived by himself, and his Excellency seemed unwilling to notice it. He had listened to me with the greatest attention during the whole time of our conference, and had interrupted me but on three occasions, to declare his acquiescence in my proposals with regard to their Highnesses the Begums and to the question of Mal Tewaree. He now remarked, with a reference to the style and manner of correspondence, that he considered your Lordship's requisition as precluding objection on his part, though it was evident that your Lordship's opinion on this, as on every other point of his letter, was in perfect coincidence with mine; that, for himself, he had only to acquiesce in the manner of writing prescribed to him, but that the style of our correspondence with the Marhattas seemed more liable to objection than his, and it seemed odd that he should first be corrected. I replied, that I could with accuracy advert to the letters of such Marhatta chieftains only as had corresponded with me in Bundelcund, and that those were respectful in the extreme; that I had heard of inconsiderate and exceptionable forms of address (termed *Alkâb* in oriental correspondence) on the part of his Highness the Peishwa, but that the general style of his letters was entirely free from objection in every other respect; that the antient forms of address from his Excellency and his father and brother to the Governor-General of India, and to the representative of the British Government at Lucknow, whether originally suitable or otherwise, and whether applicable or inapplicable to the actual circumstances of the times, had never in any instance been objected to, and would remain as originally fixed, without any cavil on my part; and all that your Lordship required, or that I was instructed to urge on the present occasion to his Excellency, was his own recurrence and adherence

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adherence to those common observances of respect which were uniformly practised by his predecessors, and which he had been pleased to set aside, while the former Residents at his Excellency's Court, and particularly myself, had been gradually increasing the demonstrations of our highest respect for his Excellency in the language and manner of our letters.

17. With this observation on my part, and an assurance on the part of the Vizier that he would deliberate fully and maturely on every subject of my discourse, and inform me speedily of the result on such questions as remained to be settled, our conference of the 17th instant broke up, and I have not seen his Excellency since.

18. I have, however, the satisfaction of transmitting for your Lordship in Council's perusal a copy and translation of a letter which his Excellency sent to me yesterday, and the language of which, in the original, will be reported to your Lordship to be free from every one of those offensive expressions which the Vizier has been accustomed to use, and which are noticed in the Persian Secretary's report, while the substance of the letter will, I doubt not, appear to your Lordship in Council to be more satisfactory on the whole than could have been expected at this stage of my proceedings, under the recent instructions of the Government.

19. I shall have the honour of submitting my sentiments on the subjects of his Excellency's letter in detail, and of reporting my further proceedings regarding them, in a future address to your Lordship, or through the medium of the Secretary to Government, at an early period of time.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
26th April 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 25th of April 1813.)

I purpose in this letter to give an answer to each of the questions that were discussed at our conference of Saturday last; and first, regarding her Highness the elder Begum. The disorders and irregularities which prevail in all the frontier villages of my dominions, and the murders and other outrages committed against my subjects, inhabitants of those villages, by the Zemindars of her Highness's jagier, have been repeatedly complained of by me to her Highness, and I have written to you on the subject. You, too, have written to her frequently, but hitherto in vain. Nevertheless, in consideration of your urgent requisitions for the settlement of her Highness's claims, my letter of the 4th instant gives you full powers to decide in whatever manner you think proper, and whatever you say shall be agreed to.

With a reference to the khassa (provisions) and jagier of her Highness the younger Begum, I agree to your proposal, as detailed in your letter of the 13th instant.

With regard to the claims of Moonshee Aleo Nuckee, and Hoosein Aleo Khan, after conveying a true statement of both cases in my letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, I expressed my readiness to comply with his Lordship's wishes on those points. To this letter I have not hitherto had a reply; but still if his Lordship will be pleased to point out any mode of investigation into the merits of those cases, in reply to my letter above noticed, or will merely write to me, "do so and so, in compliance with my request," I am ready to comply with his wishes; indeed your own application to this effect would satisfy me equally well; but as the matter has been referred to his Lordship, it behoves me to await his reply.

- With regard to the case of Mal Tewaree, whenever that person shall again present himself to me, and shall swear by the faith which he professes to the amount of the loss which he sustained, I shall perform my promise in his favour. I have, moreover, issued positive orders to my Aumils to beware of seizing or distraining, on any pretext whatever, the property of a sepoy or servant of the Honourable Company's Government.

With

With a reference to the terms and expressions that have been hitherto used in correspondence, the matter of fact is this; that those words have been used all along with the consent and approbation of former Residents, not otherwise, or they would certainly have remonstrated on the subject, which none of them has hitherto done. But as it appears, from the tenor of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, that the use of the expressions in question is now disapproved by his Lordship, and has long been unpleasant to you, and the discontinuance of all those expressions is considered as essential to the honour and dignity of the officers of the British Government; under these circumstances, if I were to hesitate or object to lay aside those obnoxious expressions, his Lordship might infer, what God forbid! that I wished to derogate or detract from the honour and dignity of British officers, and therefore every expression which could be considered in that light by his Lordship has been laid aside and discontinued in correspondence; for, if the discontinuance of those words can promote the honour and dignity of the British officers and be satisfactory to his Lordship's mind, what better inducement can I wish for?

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15 May 1818.

Letter
from the Vizier.

It is stated in the translation of the Persian Secretary's report to Government that "in the time of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah the forms of correspondence were not invariably the same, but that trifling differences occasionally occurred, either through the ignorance or mistake of the Moonshee," &c. &c. (to the end). And also, that "the present forms of correspondence seem to have commenced in 1801, but whether this essential change attracted the notice of Colonel Scott," &c. &c. (to the end).

All this matter seems to me to be irrelevant and unnecessary; for it has ever been and is now my chief wish to give pleasure and satisfaction to the Governor-General, in as far as lies in my power, and besides the forms of correspondence were certainly not invariably the same during the Government of my brother the late Asuf-ood-Dowlah: but were I to enter into a discussion of those forms, it might give rise to another dispute which I am cordially disposed to avoid.

With regard to the insertion of the date of my letters at the conclusion, I mentioned, and wished to continue it, merely to aid my recollection; and afterwards suggested, that it should be written on the corner or the back of the letter, or on any other place, as you thought proper. You determined that it should be written on the back of my letters, and with this suggestion I have complied.

With regard to your letters to my address, you suggest that they be dated in Persian or English on the back, as I may think proper. In answer to which I repeat, that whatever you proposed to me with a view to respect for your own Government, I have agreed to, and you may either date your letters or not at all and in the way which is most agreeable to yourself, as I have no right to prescribe any rule for your guidance.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, under date the 26th ultimo, and with a particular reference to three of the questions depending with this Government which are treated in that despatch, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the enclosed copies in English and Persian of three separate letters which I have addressed to his Excellency the Vizier, and a translation of one letter which I have received from his Excellency in reply.

2. From the tenor of this latter document, his Lordship in Council will be pleased to observe that the final redress of the grievances of Mal Tewarree, Naick in the Honourable Company's service, has been postponed by his Excellency the Vizier, contrary to my inclination, till the re-appearance of Mal Tewarree at

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Lucknow, to make oath to the extent of his loss, and I have required his attendance accordingly. The purport of the Vizier's circular order to his Aumils, as intended and calculated to preclude the oppression of our sepoys in future, and vexatious discussions on that subject, will, I doubt not, be satisfactory to the Government.

3. Of the redress of the grievances of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, and a renewal of the former allowance to the indigent family of Hyder Beg, in the person of his son Hoossein Alee Khan, though I have deemed it to be my duty to urge both those points in strong terms to the Vizier, I can scarcely entertain an expectation, till his Excellency shall receive a reply to his letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General under date the 26th of August.

4. The more important question of reform is obviously in a similar predicament; and I have great doubts of the expediency of my pressing this question again on the attention or consideration of the Vizier till he be apprized of the sentiments of the Government in a direct address from his Lordship, whose commands I shall therefore await regarding the revival of the question of reform.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
6th May 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 28th of April 1813.)

It is my intention to reply to the several remarks which are contained in your Excellency's letter of the 25th instant by a series of letters to your address, in each of which one of the remaining questions at issue shall be separately treated and discussed, as I hope, to your Excellency's satisfaction. And first, regarding the case of Mal Tewaree, Naick in the Honourable Company's service, your Excellency has been pleased to assure me, that "whenever that person shall again appear in the Presence, and shall swear by the faith which he professes to the amount of the loss which he has sustained, your promise in his behalf shall be fulfilled."

The arrangement which your Excellency has recently made for the redress of all future injuries to be sustained by the Honourable Company's sepoys and dependants, is, in my opinion, highly satisfactory, and will, I doubt not, have the desired effect: but, with regard to the particular case of Mal Tewaree, who has been already in constant attendance for a period of more than a year, and after suffering unprecedented loss as well as disappointment, was at length compelled to join his corps at Benares, (leaving his son behind him as his agent, with full powers to act in his behalf), the extreme old age and infirm state of health of this unfortunate person, rendering him an object of the invalid establishment, induce me to suggest to your Excellency that his personal attendance be dispensed with, and that the deposition of his son be received, to establish the extent of his loss and his claim against your Excellency's Aumil.

A copy of an arzee from his son, with a statement of the property of which he was plundered, is submitted for your Excellency's perusal; and if your Excellency will be graciously pleased, in compassion for the sufferings and weak state of the father, to comply with my suggestion in his behalf, you will confer a favour on the British Government, as well as perform an act of humanity to the invalid.

I beg to be favoured with a copy of the circular order to Aumils which is referred to in your Excellency's letter, that a translation of it may be sent to the Presidency for his Lordship in Council's satisfaction.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 29th of April 1815.)

In your Excellency's letter of the 25th instant it is stated, with a reference to the claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, that after conveying a true statement of the case in your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, you expressed a readiness to comply with his Lordship's wishes on this point, and that if his Lordship will be pleased to point out any mode of investigation into the merits of the case, in reply to the letter above noticed, or will merely write to you, "do so and so," you are ready to comply with his wishes.

Now, as your Excellency may be perfectly assured that I would never presume to suggest any measure for your Excellency's adoption, far less to urge and importune you regarding it, without the express sanction and command of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and as, in fact, I am fully acquainted not only with his Lordship in Council's decision on the merits of this case, after a careful perusal of the sunnuds and of the arguments on both sides of the question, but also with his Lordship's particular wish and desire in behalf of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, and with his gracious resolution, if necessary, to address your Excellency again in the strongest terms on this subject, under these circumstances I submit for your Excellency's serious consideration, under his Lordship's authority and in his name, the following fact and propositions, which have appeared to his Lordship in Council to be established in favour of the Moonshee, and which I have no hesitation in promising to produce and exhibit to your Excellency in a short time, if it be necessary, under his Lordship's signature and seal.

First. Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan has an unquestionable right, by inheritance, to a certain share of the Chowdhur, canoongoey, and zemindary of the town and district of Sandee, in your Excellency's hereditary dominions, and in virtue of this right, as his own individual share, specifically allotted to him by a deed of distribution and acknowledgment under the seals of the other sharers, confirmed to him by the perwannahs of former possessors of Sandee, by the grants of your Excellency's brother, the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and by the letters of Hyder Beg Khan, Mr. Middleton, and of the Aumils of that pergunnah, as well as by your Excellency's mandate obtained through the mediation of Colonel Scott, the Moonshee is known to have maintained the uniform and undisturbed possession, till the year 1216 fusly, of three gardens, one chuck, two villages as Nankar, namely Muhwa Colee and Acknowra, and a bazar, called after him Moonshee Gunge. A particular and authenticated statement of all those possessions, under the seal of the deputy Aumil of Sandee, Naib of the late Almas Alee Khan, has been frequently submitted to your Excellency, and demonstrates the Moonshee's possession of the premises beyond the possibility of a doubt.

Second. Of all those hereditary possessions the Moonshee was unjustly deprived about the middle of the year 1216 fusly, by the then Aumil of Sandee, who now prevents him from farming any one of the villages in his zemindary.

Third. Rushek Loll, a Brahmin, and others, have forcibly possessed themselves of ground in the bazar of Moonshee Gunge, and have erected houses on that ground without the Moonshee's permission.

Fourth. A person named Imteaz Alee, under the pretext of being a son of Sulam Oolla, the late Chowdree of Sandee, has taken possession of the house of the deceased, thus depriving and forcibly dispossessing the children and grandchildren of Sulam Oolla, including the sons of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, of their just and lawful inheritance.

These facts being admitted or proved, it is expected from your Excellency's justice, and will be received as a favour and a mark of your Excellency's friendship by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that your Excellency issue your orders to the Aumil of the district of Sandee for the release and restoration to the Moonshee of his possessions above described, with the amount of the rents which have been collected from them, and for his being permitted to farm the villages in his zemindary at a fair and moderate assessment, and to the several persons who have built houses on the Moonshee's ground.

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from Resident at
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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.
Enclosure.

ground without his consent for the immediate removal of their buildings, and for the reinstatement of the Moonshee's sons, the only legitimate grandchildren of Sulam Oolla, in the houses and other possessions of which they are unjustly deprived.

Writing under the seal of Lalla Soorool Sookh, Naib of Sandee and Palee, on the part of Mohummud Almass Alee Khan. Dated the 17th of Shabaun, A. H. 1215, or A. D. 1801.

Notice is hereby given to the present and future Mootusuddees in the pergunnah of Sandee, Sircar Khyrabad, that in consequence of a shookha issued from the Presence to Mohummud Almass Alee Khan, I have received a perwannah from Raja Buhwannee Pershaud to the following effect. " Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan is going to Calcutta, and you must not suffer any person to interfere with any of his villages, houses, or other rights and perquisites of zemindary. Should any one attempt to molest him, information must be conveyed to the Presence." You are therefore desired to consider this as a positive order against the molestation of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, in his possession of the houses, villages, or other rights and perquisites which are now held by the Moonshee, as established by ancient custom, to wit :

Exemptions, under the head of Nankar.

The village of Aknowra,
The Puryek garden,
The garden of Nawaub Gunge,
The village of Muhwa Colie,
One Chuck and the Emambara garden.

Rights of Zemindaree.

Purjowt-i-Khalesa,
Saeer-i-Zemindaree,
Fisheries in the Nullah,
Sweetmeats distributed on the commencement of collection,
Bheyt from each village and Moonshee Gunge.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st of May 1813.)

Your Excellency has been pleased to remark, in your letter of the 25th instant, with a reference to the claims of Hoosein Alee Khan, that after conveying a true statement of the case in your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, you had expressed a readiness to comply with his Lordship's wishes on this point, and if his Lordship will be pleased to point out any mode of investigation into the merits of the case, in reply to your letter above-noticed, or will merely write to you, " do so and so," you are ready to comply with his wishes.

The representation which I have recently had occasion to make to your Excellency on the subject of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan's claims, must appear to you to be equally applicable to this case. The Right Honourable the Governor-General has explicitly informed your Excellency, that I have received his Lordship's instructions on every point under discussion, and has requested your Excellency to consider my representations as proceeding directly from his Lordship, and equally demanding your regard. Were it otherwise, I should not have presumed to solicit your Excellency's attention to, far less to urge your acquiescence in any of the questions or objects which were formerly agitated between us, and had long ago been referred by your Excellency, as well as by me, for his Lordship's ultimate decision.

It is, in fact, therefore, the deliberate decision of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, after a minute and attentive consideration of all the papers and arguments on the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, that I now submit to your Excellency, under his Lordship's authority, and in his name, and I have no hesitation in promising to procure and exhibit to your Excellency, if your Excellency be pleased to require it, a similar statement *verbatim* under his Lordship's signature and seal. It is as follows ;

The grant of a yearly stipend of one lac of rupees in money, with several villages and other possessions in jagier, to the two legitimate sons and other surviving relations of the late Hyder Beg Khan, through the mediation of the late Marquis Cornwallis, and their uniform enjoyment of this allowance till your Excellency's

Excellency's accession to the musnad, have been proved beyond the possibility of a doubt, by the concurring testimony of many of the most respectable inhabitants of Lucknow, who are still in existence and ready to make oath to this effect, as well as by the records of this Residency; and your Excellency's ignorance of the fact, which is the only argument adduced, cannot obviously be received in refutation of the grant of an allowance by the late Nawaub Assufood-Dowlah long before your Excellency's time, consequently your Excellency must be bound by the express terms of your letter to the address of the Honourable Mr. Wellesley dated the 17th of Jemadee-oos-sanee, A.H. 1216, a copy of which is transmitted for your perusal, not only to restore the allowance which has hitherto been withheld since your accession, but also in strict justice to refund the arrears of that allowance to the indigent posterity of Hyder Beg Khan.

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15 May 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Akbur Alee Khan, the eldest son of Hyder Beg, who originally received the amount, and directed the distribution of this allowance among the several relations of the deceased, having incurred the displeasure of your Excellency as well as of the British Government, and being now under personal restraint, there is certainly a valid pretext for the resumption or detention of that part of the stipend which was originally allotted to him, and I do not consider myself as authorized to insist on your Excellency's payment of that portion of the allowance; but as Hoosein Alee Khan, the second son of Hyder Beg, has an equal right with his brother, and is under none of the disqualifications which are described in your Excellency's letter to Mr. Wellesley, there can be no just cause, I conceive, for his deprivation of his own share of the stipend, nor of the right of receiving and distributing the shares of the other relations, which has been forfeited by his elder brother in consequence of his disobedience of the law.

A consideration of justice, therefore, as well as of due regard to the important services which were rendered to your Excellency's Government by the late Hyder Beg Khan, most urgently demands, and I have been instructed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, on these grounds, and in the most earnest manner to request, that your Excellency will be pleased to restore the whole amount of the stipend of a lac of rupees per annum, deducting the share of Akbur Alee Khan, to the family of the late Hyder Beg, in the name of his second son, Hoosein Alee Khan, who will reserve and appropriate to himself his personal share of the allowance, and distribute the remainder among his brothers and other relations, the needy dependants of his father.

I shall have the honour of submitting to your Excellency a correct list of their names, with a statement of the monthly allowances which each of them formerly received, as soon as your Excellency shall inform me of your acquiescence in this necessary arrangement.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier to the Honourable Henry Wellesley.
(Dated and received the 26th October 1801.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received and understood your letter, stating that "I had agreed to the regular payment of the pensions granted either by the deceased Nawaub or by myself, with the exception of that of Mirza Hussun Reza Khan Behadur, which was now fixed at eight thousand sicca rupees per month." It is true that I have agreed to the above purport, and they shall all receive the pensions granted to them, and no person shall be omitted. If any person, however, should absent himself from my presence and leave the country; or if (which God forbid) any person should commit oppression upon the life or property of another (as it is in no measure agreeable to me that any one should in any shape distress or oppress another, it is necessary that the orders of the Adawlut should be respected), and should resist the orders of the Adawlut; or if any person should choose the road of enmity and disaffection, and this disaffection be

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Letter
from the Vizier.

proved, by reason or by ocular demonstration, the pensions of those only who refrain from such conduct shall remain firm and established.

You also wrote, that you would relinquish the plan which had been concerted for an establishment, under the Company's servants, in the reserved dominions, and leave this to the servants of my Government. I am highly pleased and satisfied with this instance of your friendship, and by the blessing of God, an efficient system shall be established under my Government, to protect the lives and properties of the people, and proper persons for this purpose shall be inquired after: I write this for your satisfaction.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 2d May 1813.)

Your letter, dated the 26th of Rubbee-oos-sanee (28th April), requesting that the personal attendance of Mal Tewaree be dispensed with, on account of his extreme old age and the infirm state of his health, and that the deposition of his son, who is in attendance, be received to establish his claim, with an arzee from the son of Mal Tewaree and a list of his property, has been received. The case is this: Considering Mal Tewaree to be the principal, and in fact the only person concerned in this affair, I formerly wrote to you to desire his attendance for the purpose of taking his oath; therefore, when he attends and makes oath to his losses, his property or the value of it shall be restored.

A copy of the orders issued to my Aumils is enclosed, agreeably to your request.

Orders to Aumils. *Orders to Aumils.* (Dated the 24th April 1813. 22 Rubbee-oo-sanee 1228.)

On the 29th of Rujeeb last (8th August 1812), an order was issued from the Presence, directing the fair and equitable settlement of all matters of dispute with the Honourable Company's servants, and forbidding their being confined or ill treated. You are now enjoined by the Presence to pay strict attention to the former shookha on this subject, and hereafter on no pretext to seize or molest the property or dwelling-house of any servant of the Honourable Company's Government, taking notice that if you act in opposition to this order, all property in ready-money or goods which may hereafter be distrained or confiscated, or the full value of that property, to the extent which the owner may declare on his oath to be true, shall be taken from you and given to the complainant. Being apprized of this resolution beforehand, you have yourself to blame for the consequences if you act contrary to orders.

True translations :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the following letter be written to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to the two foregoing despatches.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, dated the 26th ultimo, to the address of the Governor-General in Council, reporting your proceedings in execution of the instructions conveyed to you in my letter of the 5th of March. Your letter of the 6th instant to my address, in continuation of the subject of the despatch above acknowledged, has also been received and submitted to the Governor-General in Council.

2. I am directed to convey to you the expression of his Lordship in Council's entire approbation of the manner in which you have executed the instructions above referred to, and of the tenor of your discourse to his Excellency the Vizier at the two conferences with his Excellency, which you have described in your despatch. His Lordship in Council considers your share of those conferences to have been conducted with judgment, spirit, firmness, and address, and the success which has attended your exertions to improve and confirm the effect produced on the mind of the Vizier by the Governor-General's letter, has afforded his Lordship in Council a high degree of satisfaction.

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

3. The tone and manner in which his Excellency's acquiescence in the propositions to which he has acceded, was conveyed both in his verbal communications and in his letter to your address, of which a translation accompanied your despatch, although not free from the appearance of reluctance and ungraciousness, are yet, on the whole, sufficiently satisfactory, and his acquiescence on those points is in substance so explicit and unqualified, as to leave no room for evasion or equivocation. The Governor-General in Council relies on your firmness and perseverance, from which so much advantage has already been derived for giving full and complete effect to the consent of the Vizier to the arbitration of his differences with the Bhow Begum, the adjustment of the affairs of Shums-oon Nissa Begum, and the redress of grievances sustained by the Honourable Company's sepoys at the hands of the Vizier's Aumils.

4. His Lordship in Council is happy to observe that his Excellency has already afforded a practical instance of his compliance with the remonstrances of the Governor-General on the improper style and form of his correspondence with you, by addressing to you a letter entirely free from objection in those respects.

5. With respect to his Excellency's refusal to acquiesce in your suggestion, that the deposition of the son of Mal Tewaree, naick, should be received instead of that of Mal Tewaree himself, his Lordship in Council does not consider his Excellency's expectation in this instance to be unreasonable, especially adverting to the extremely favourable nature of the test by which the truth and extent of the alleged grievances of our sepoys are to be decided, and his Lordship in Council entirely approves of your having desisted from urging his Excellency on this point.

6. The tenor of your letters to his Excellency's address, relative to the case of Alee Nuckee Khan and Hoosein Alee Khan, is entirely approved. Those two cases and the important question of reform, are the only points adverted to in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier of the 8th May 1812 which remain to be adjusted. A reply to the Vizier's answers to that letter will be prepared with the least practicable delay. In the meanwhile you will avail yourself of any favourable opportunity of urging his Excellency on these questions, assuring him that you are authorised to declare that the sentiments expressed in the letter of the 8th of May have undergone no change whatever, but have, on the contrary, been strengthened and confirmed by further reflection, and that no circumstances can ever induce the British Government to relax in its exertions to introduce into his Excellency's administration those salutary reforms, of which the expediency and necessity can admit of no dispute, and which both Governments are bound to use every effort to accomplish, or to refrain from urging the necessity of rendering justice to Hoosein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckee Khan.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
15th May 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 May 1813.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th May 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. A daring robbery having been recently committed in the British cantonments, and another in the neighbourhood of the Residency, by persons actually in the service of his Excellency the Vizier or leagued with the officers of his police, I deemed it to be my positive duty to take advantage of this extraordinary occurrence, for the purpose of recalling and entreating the most serious attention of the Vizier to the establishment of the police of his metropolis, and to the conduct of the officers of his Adawlut.

2. I have accordingly addressed a letter on this subject to his Excellency, a copy and translation of which are enclosed, and in which a particular reference is made, as the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will be pleased to observe, to my long letter on the same subject under date the 7th of October 1811, already before the Government, and hitherto unanswered by the Vizier.

3. His Excellency has repeatedly assured me, that the subject of both those letters shall be taken into his early consideration, and that every practicable measure shall be adopted to give effect to the suggestions which I have offered; yet the frequency of robbery and of every other atrocious crime, in this profligate and unfortunate city, has of late apparently increased, and I see little prospect of its diminution, under the present system of the Government and unhappy disposition of its ruler.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th May 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 12th May 1813.)

A statement of every circumstance connected with the seizure of the thieves who broke into Lieutenant Munro's bungalow in the cantonments, and carried off the whole of that officer's property, and of the discovery of the greater part of the property in the houses of those offenders, has already, I have reason to believe, been submitted to your Excellency by the Cutwaul.

The peculiar circumstances attending this robbery must have excited your Excellency's indignation, as well as my surprise and concern. They afford a most salutary example of the state of the police of Lucknow, and demonstrate in an extraordinary manner the justice and accuracy of the remark which I had occasion to offer to your Excellency, in the commencement of my letter on police, dated the 18th of Rumzaun 1226 (7th October 1811), namely, the connivance at least, if not the association of your Excellency's officers and servants with the perpetrators of those crimes. Indeed, the audacity with which these offenders have constantly committed their depredations in the British cantonments and in the city, and the total absence of fear evinced by their retaining the stolen property in their houses, under the walls of your Excellency's palace, can be ascribed to no other cause than their being in fact your Excellency's servants, or leagued with the Cutwaul and his establishment, as well as with the Adawlut of Lucknow; and consequently the only effectual remedy for this evil must be a complete reform in the Adawlut, and in the present system of the police, in the manner so often suggested by your Excellency's well wisher and friend, both in writing and in earnest discourse.

I take this opportunity of transmitting to your Excellency a copy of the third or fourth petition which has been presented to me by Major Dalton's native woman, who was plundered of all her property and reduced to absolute beggary by the atrocious banditti of Lucknow; and I entreat that your Excellency will be pleased to adopt such measures as may lead to a speedy recovery of her property, and
also

also of the remainder of Lieutenant Munro's, in order that it be restored to the owners.

Bengal Political Consultations,
28 May 1813.

A true copy;

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Intelligence from the Chubootera. (Written the 10th of May 1813.)

Intelligence from
the Chubootera.

Two Chobdars, accompanied by Rumzanee Passee, in the service of his Excellency the Vizier, delivered a shookha to the Cutwaul, directing him to send his Peadas immediately with the Passee.

Dhoomun Beg accordingly despatched Khajeh Mohummud and fifty Peadehs with the Passee, who, attended by Buldee Sing, sepoy, and Londuree bearer in Lieutenant Munro's service, conducted them to the neighbourhood of Gunga Sookool's tank, where they seized Bukhsh Oolla Khan and five other Meiwattees, servants of the Vizier, and brought them, with two boxes containing the greater part of the property of which Lieutenant Munro had been robbed, before the Cutwaul, who confined them all night in the Chubootera, and sent them to the Presence the next day.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d July 1813.

Bengal Political Consultations,
2 July 1813.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have already had the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your despatch under date the 8th of May last, containing an English copy of a letter of the same date, addressed to his Excellency the Vizier by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, for the purpose of aiding my representations to his Excellency on a number of points of negotiation depending between the two States. The original letter in Persian was received on the 22d of June last, and was presented and read to the Vizier, after a suitable exordium on my part, on the morning of the 4th ultimo.

2. I have hitherto delayed to report to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the details of my discussions with the Vizier on the principal points which are noticed in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, in the daily expectation of receiving a definitive answer to that letter, which his Excellency was occupied in preparing, and transmitted to me for despatch to the Presidency on the evening of the 26th instant.

3. The apparently happy result, though not the detail, of my arguments at a long conference with the Vizier on the morning of the 18th June last, has already been reported to you for his Lordship in Council's information.

4. On that occasion I recalled to his Excellency's mind the subjects of the many unpleasant and vexatious discussions which had occupied his time and my own, during the greatest part of the period of Lord Minto's absence from the Presidency; a period marked in its commencement by his Excellency's departure from his solemn and written engagements with a reference to the reform of his administration, and subsequently by a series of manifest opposition and disregard to every measure and suggestion recommended and submitted by me, on grounds of the most obvious justice and expedience, with a view to check the illegal and irregular proceedings of his Excellency's officers and subjects against the subjects and dependants of our Government, and to obtain redress of the manifold injuries and wrongs sustained by the latter from the former.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

5. I asked his Excellency if it were possible for such a state of things to exist for any protracted period of time, between Governments so closely connected with each other as the Honourable Company's and that of Oude. Could his Excellency for a moment suppose, that all or any one of the various measures and suggestions which had been recommended and urged to him by me, and systematically opposed or disregarded during the period to which I had referred, was the offspring of my own judgment, uninstructed by the Government, was an object of merely personal interest to myself, and unlikely to obtain the sanction or support of the high authority which I represented? Was the silence of the Right Honourable the Governor-General on those points since his Lordship's return to the Government, his delay to remonstrate against proceedings which had an obvious tendency to subvert the principles of the alliance, and to dissolve the relations of amity subsisting between the two States, to be misconstrued into a sanction of such proceedings?

6. I stated my having reason to believe that it was a favourite topic of discourse among a few of his confidential servants, that the measures of reform in his Government, the suggestion of a provision for Hoossein Alee Khan, the reinstatement of Tubseep Alee Khan in the management of the Khoord Muhl, the redress of the grievances of Moonshce Alee Nuckee Khan, and a number of subordinate claims which had been urged to his Excellency by me, were matters of importance and interest chiefly to myself, and had received in some instances the sanction and support of the Government merely at my suggestion, but that this support would be carried only to a limited extent, in the language of friendly remonstrance, and that his Excellency had nothing to do but to persist in his opposition to the measures for a time, when the Government would certainly depart from them, since it had never been in the contemplation of Government to urge those demands to extremity, as was evident by its silence on the important question of reform, and on several others of importance, for so long a period of time.

7. That such was the pernicious doctrine held forth in his Excellency's Durbar, and that it had influenced his Excellency's proceedings, was apparent from these proceedings themselves, as well as confirmed in my belief by the various reports which had reached me; and that the unprecedented circumstance of a lapse of nearly two months without his having once visited the Residency, connected with his systematic disregard of every suggestion which I had conveyed to him, afforded sufficient proof of the unhappy and baneful effects of the pernicious doctrine described.

8. I now entreated his Excellency to banish for ever from his mind such baneful conclusions as those, and to remove from his confidence and favour the inspirers and encouragers of such sentiments. I assured him, on my honour and truth, that with a reference to every question of importance which had been agitated between his Excellency and me, the Government was fully and regularly apprized of my proceedings, nay, was in possession of every written document that had passed between us on those questions, and that I was further prepared to take official notice to the Government of his personal neglect and disregard for the high station which I occupied, when the necessity for this measure was happily superseded by his friendly visit to the Residency, which I had now come to acknowledge, with the cordial wish and the anxious expectation of its leading to a salutary and permanent change in his Excellency's disposition and conduct.

9. The Nawaub interrupted me here to make some apology for his remissness in visiting the Residency as usual, and conveyed some equivocal expressions of regret for our frequent difference of opinion on the subjects of discussion between us. He declared his having passed many restless nights in reflecting on the nature of those discussions, and in endeavouring to reconcile his opinions to mine. He avowed his conviction of the necessity, as well as a due sense of the obligations, by which he was bound to conform to the advice of our Government, and to comply with the suggestions of its representative, and professed a sincere desire to do so in every practicable case. He hinted, to my surprise, at his knowledge of measures in train at the Presidency for the support of my representations, and appealed, in earnest and pathetic terms, to my long and established friendship,

friendship, for the moderate exercise of that support which he knew I must receive from the Government, declaring that the power was in my hands, that he was determined no longer to oppose my wishes or views, and using a number of conciliatory epithets and expressions which it is unnecessary here to repeat.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

10. Taking advantage of the apparently happy frame of mind which induced those acknowledgments and expressions, I proceeded to discuss with his Excellency a few of the principal questions which required an immediate adjustment: and first, with a reference to Budjha Sing, I applied with complete and immediate success the reasoning adopted in your despatch under date the 8th of May last. His Excellency seemed peculiarly impressed by the conviction, which this reasoning afforded, of the inadequacy, or rather the injurious tendency, of the measures and proceedings adopted heretofore by himself, and of the right of the British Government to adopt more efficient measures with regard to the marauder Budjha Sing, and acquiesced with readiness and seeming cordiality in every suggestion which I offered. The ultimate result of my negotiation on this point, and on the similar question of marauders finding refuge in the province of Baraitch, is already in detail before the Government.

11. The second topic of our discussion was the extraordinary and aggravated nature and extent of the illegal exactions of duty which had been recently levied, under peculiar circumstances of violence and oppression, by his Excellency's Aumils and landholders on the banks of the Ganges and Gagra, from the merchants and traders of Futhaghur and Cawnpore, proceeding with their merchandize by water under the protection of the Honourable Company's passports, and without any intention of landing or disposing of it in this country. A sum of several thousand rupees had been levied by violence from those traders, whose boats had been detained for several weeks together at the gauths in his Excellency's dominions, and the restitution of this money, with the penalty, was now claimed in terms of the commercial treaty, as well as the adoption of effectual measures for precluding such irregularities in future. On this subject a written discussion of considerable length had taken place between his Excellency and me, and ample satisfaction on the question was now for the first time promised by his Excellency.

12. The next questions of discussion were the complaints of Gungapershaud, havildar, and Joorawun Sing, sepoy, in the Honourable Company's service, for outrages committed against their persons and property by an Aumil and Cutwaul in the service of the Vizier. The detail of my written remonstrances on those subjects, and the sentiments of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council regarding them, are already recorded on the proceedings of the Government. The measure of justice and redress originally demanded by me, and for a time so pertinaciously refused by the Vizier, who persisted in avowing and vindicating the outrageous conduct of his officers, was on this occasion promised by his Excellency, and has since been reluctantly granted.

13. I then proceeded to the question of the superintendence of the Khoord Muhl, and entreated his Excellency to review in a cool and dispassionate manner the arrangement which he had recently made, in direct violation of treaty, and in manifest opposition to the just rights and declared will of her Highness the Bhow Begum, as well as in disregard of my repeated and earnest advice. I begged him to consider the utter impossibility of the British Government's acquiescence in, far less its support of, an arrangement, in breach of a solemn obligation to which that Government was a guarantee. I admitted, for the sake of argument, that the ladies of the Khoord Muhl bore a nearer relation to his Excellency than to her Highness the Begum; that his Excellency had originally confirmed Tuhseen Alee Khan in the superintendence of the Muhl, in opposition to her Highness's will, or with merely her tacit consent; that the distribution of the stipends of the Muhl, received in the first instance from the Begum, had been made for a period of fourteen years by Tuhseen, under his Excellency's exclusive control; that the accounts of those stipends had been uniformly rendered to his Excellency, and that the balance or surplus of the distribution had been paid into his Excellency's treasury. The utmost extent of the plea which those circumstances, if admitted, could authorize, was that the Begum had wilfully delayed for a time the assertion of her just rights, and had acquiesced in

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

in his Excellency's encroachments; not, surely, that her Highness's positive and unquestionable right under the treaty had been abrogated or lost by this delay. During all the period referred to, that is, from the confirmation of Tuhseen Alee Khan's appointment after his Excellency's accession to the Musnud, whether with or against the declared or tacit consent of her Highness the Begum, no innovation had hitherto taken place. Her Highness became reconciled to Tuhseen, or acquiesced in his Excellency's views with a reference to the appointment of that person. An innovation had now taken place, a direct infraction of the treaty had occurred, inasmuch as an utter stranger had been appointed to supersede Tuhseen, without reference to the Begum on the subject, and in opposition to her declared will. Against this innovation and infraction her Highness had thought proper to appeal to the Government which guaranteed the engagement. Could this appeal be declined? Could the British Government, without a positive breach of its own faith, refuse to listen to her Highness's remonstrance? and could his Excellency, under these circumstances, expect to maintain the arrangement which he had made, in defiance of my repeated and earnest caution against the consequences of so unprecedented a measure? Was it not better, more advisable, more conducive to his Excellency's reputation, to anticipate the consequences described, to supersede the necessity for a positive demand by our Government of his observance of the obligation which it guaranteed, by restoring Tuhseen to the office of Superintendent of the muhl, as a voluntary act of justice on his own part, which I was still prepared to acquiesce in, and thus to put an end to a discussion which had caused so much uneasiness to both? Would the comfort of the ladies of the muhl, for whom his Excellency had now professed so much regard, after appropriating for a series of years to himself a considerable portion of their subsistence, which the Begum declined to claim, be in any degree infringed by this measure? Would her Highness the Begum, under whose protection, in whose city, at whose door, those ladies had resided for a period of forty years, who had regularly paid their full allowance without deduction, and to whom in fact their reputation, honour, and good conduct, as the females of her husband's household, formed an object naturally of more importance and of greater interest than to his Excellency, or to any other person in the world, be so unmindful of her own dignity and reputation, as to treat those ladies with severity, and impel them to disorderly conduct? Would Tuhseen Alee Khan, the faithful servant of the State, to whose superintendence and control those ladies had been habituated for a period of equal duration, and with whose conduct they had constantly expressed their satisfaction in the strongest and most animated terms, when now in the last stages of his existence, while suffering under the displeasure of his sovereign unjustly, and surrounded by enemies and spies, be less mindful of his character and credit, less kind or attentive to the ancient objects of his attachment and regard, now aged and infirm like himself, than in the days of his more ample authority and power? Was there, in reality, any solid or even plausible objection to the measure, which justice and a due sense of my public duty induced me to recommend to his Excellency, and which the spirit and letter of an express obligation on his own part, guaranteed by the British Government, required? Again, I entreated his Excellency to consider in a dispassionate manner the tendency of all these remarks, and to hesitate ere he resolved to maintain an arrangement which could not be supported on any principle of justice or good faith, and consequently could never receive the sanction of the British Government.

14. His Excellency, after a little consideration, declared his acquiescence in my proposal, agreed to reinstate Tuhseen without delay, to announce his re-appointment as an act of impartial justice to the ladies of the muhl, and to confer a khelat on Tuhseen Alee Khan as a proof of his restoration to favour.

15. These measures have since been carried into effect; though, I must add, with extraordinary reluctance and in a most ungracious manner, through every stage of the proceeding. The ladies of the muhl have been taught to believe by Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan, and others, in the confidence and service of the Vizier, that the re-appointment of Tuhseen Alee Khan is a measure by no means of inclination on his part, and that their opposition to the authority of Tuhseen, and even of the Begum, will be considered as a proof of their attachment to his Excellency,

lency, and may probably lead in the end to the subversion of the late appointment and the gratification of his Excellency's views. Opposition has accordingly been shewn on the part of a number of those ladies to the person appointed by Tuhseen, with the concurrence and approbation of the Begum, to receive and distribute at Fyzabad the stipends of the ladies of the khoord muhl; and that this opposition is secretly supported by intrigues carried on with his Excellency's sanction or by his desire, is not only my firm and decided opinion, but is publicly avowed and declared by the Begum, and by every other person acquainted in any degree with the circumstances of the recent transaction. His Excellency disavows it, of course; but his refusal to comply with my suggestions and those of the Begum, for putting a stop to the disorderly conduct of the ladies of the muhl, affords a proof beyond question or doubt of the inference which I have submitted. A number of those ladies have recently quitted Fyzabad in a most disgraceful manner, and are now on their way to Lucknow.

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16. The observations here made, and the facts on which they are founded, seem particularly worthy of notice, and are introduced in this despatch with the view of guarding against the impression which might otherwise be made, by the plausible but uncanlid statement contained in his Excellency's letter, with a reference to the superintendence of the khoord muhl. Translations of two letters from the Begum are transmitted with the same view.

17. Having disposed of, and finally concluded in a satisfactory manner, as I believed, the discussion of the question of the khoord muhl, I proceeded to represent the condition of her highness the younger Begum, and the apparently fixed resolution of this most respectable, unfortunate, and deeply injured personage, to depart from the city of Lucknow, and to seek that protection and comfort in the Honourable Company's territory, which she had reason to despair of enjoying in the capital or dominions of the Vizier, her brother and natural protector. His Excellency, as has been his uniform practice, disavowed in the strongest terms his intention of injuring the feelings or infringing the rights of the Begum, and retorted her complaints and accusations. My sentiments regarding the matter and manner of the unhappy disputes which have so long subsisted between his Excellency and the Begum, and which were always believed by my predecessors in office, and have recently been proved beyond a doubt, to be totally unsusceptible of adjustment or reconciliation, are already on the records of the Government, detailed in a number of my despatches, and especially in my letter to your address under date the 8th of October last.

18. His Excellency the Vizier, on the occasion now referred to, after listening with attention to an earnest appeal on my part in behalf of her Highness the Begum, made a proposal plausible in itself, but highly disingenuous, as it has since proved, on his part, and which he must have known to be totally futile at the time, namely, that her Highness, in the present justly irritated state of her mind, should pay him a friendly visit, or receive a visit from him; should consent to the renewal of a friendly intercourse between them, which was originally suspended by himself and by his own ungenerous conduct; that a reconciliation should take place, through the medium of my intercession, with her Highness; and that his Excellency's future proceedings towards her should be regulated by my advice.

19. Although I doubted the success of my mediation, the Vizier's proposal seemed so plausible, and the frame of mind and disposition under which it was made seemed so candid and sincere, that I resolved to undertake the task which he committed to me, and concluded the discussion of this question with a promise to make the attempt.

20. The last subject of discussion at my conference with his Excellency the Vizier, on the morning of the 18th of June, was the claim of Hoosein Alee Khan; and on this subject alone, of all the points which were agitated, his Excellency seemed totally inflexible. He disavowed his knowledge or belief of any provision having been ever made for the family of Hyder Beg Khan by the late Nawaab, Asuf-ood-Dowlah; denied the right of this family to any provision from himself; asserted his having made a declaration at the date of the Treaty of Cession, and subsequently to Lord Wellesley in person, of his inability to

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continue the pensions which had been granted by his predecessor, and the acquiescence of Lord Wellesley in this declaration, by reason of the division of his country. I replied to those arguments and assertions, by referring to the public records of his brother's Government, and to such of the public officers of that time as were still in existence, nay, to the testimony on oath, if required, of every old and respectable inhabitant of Lucknow, for proof, the most clear and satisfactory, of the original grant of the pension, and its regular payment until his Excellency's accession to the musnud. I submitted copies and extracts of the public records of this Government during the administration of Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan, authenticated by the seal of Mirza Jafer, who held the office of Bukhshee, or paymaster of the troops and household, during the whole of that administration, and containing detailed statements of the distribution of the sum of Rupees 8,535 5½ annas per mensem, as a pension to Akbur Alee Khan, Hoosein Alee Khan, and the other dependents of Hyder Beg. I assured his Excellency, that I had examined my own records in vain, with a view to trace the declaration to which he referred, at the date of the Treaty of Cession or at any subsequent period. I described the utter impossibility of the British Government, or its representatives, being induced, by any selfish or personal views, to sacrifice or compromise the rights of its ancient and faithful dependants. I stated the example of the stipends of a branch of the Royal Family of Delhi residing at Benares, from which the British Government had relieved his Excellency, by taking on itself the future payment of those stipends; and I referred it to his Excellency's candour to determine, whether or not the same Government could be capable of acquiescing in a declaration of the nature above described, without engaging at the same time, or resolving, to pay all the pensions in question. With a reference to his Excellency's ability or obligation to provide for the faithful servants and dependants of his brother's Government and his own, I maintained, that these could not have been affected in the smallest degree by the terms of the Treaty of Cession, which provided merely for His Excellency's relief from established military charges to be incurred by the Honourable Company, for the future defence of his dominions and support of his just authority; and I referred to the actual state of his treasury, to his own candour and sincerity, for his conviction of the truth of my persuasion, that his finances had yearly increased since the date of the Treaty of Cession, and that the clear revenue which he derived from his present possessions was greater, far greater, than he derived, or could have ever expected to derive, from his dominions, under the influence of the subsidiary alliance concluded with Lord Teignmouth by himself. To all the arguments which I adduced on this subject, and to every appeal which I offered to his justice, benevolence, and humanity, in behalf of Hoosein Alee Khan, his Excellency listened in silence, but continued immovable on the question; and ultimately yielded with reluctance his sanction merely to the sale of some old mansions, the property of the late Hyder Beg Khan, (which his Excellency had formerly attempted to appropriate to his own use), with the view of protracting the wretched existence of Hoosein Alee Khan and his numerous family for a time.

21. I took my leave of his Excellency at mid-day on the 18th June, after a conference of more than three hours, the general result of which will appear to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to have been satisfactory to a greater extent than was reported for his Lordship's information in my despatch of the 20th of June last; though I am sorry to have occasion to add, that his Excellency's subsequent proceedings have by no means been uniformly consistent with his professions and assurances on that day.

22. The Vizier did me the honour to breakfast with me on the morning of the 27th of June, and a conference took place on that occasion, when I remonstrated in mild and conciliatory terms against the delay which had occurred in the reinstatement of Tuhseen Alee Khan in his office of Superintendent of the khoord muhl, and which his Excellency disingenuously ascribed to his apprehension of disorders in the muhl, when this measure should be announced to the ladies. Being now in possession of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, I should have deemed it to be my duty to take this opportunity of presenting the letter to his Excellency, if I had not expected to

to derive considerable advantage in the discussion of the more important question of reform, and of the right of investigation of the claims and demands of this Government to be enforced by our military power, which I was particularly instructed to assert, by the previous satisfactory adjustment of every subordinate question that had been agitated between his Excellency and me.

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23. To those subordinate questions, accordingly, I restricted my discourse on this occasion; and, in the first place, with a reference to the *khoord muhl*, I declared to his Excellency my conviction, that the possibility of disorder among the ladies depended entirely and exclusively on their belief of its affording gratification to his mind. That the original and sole cause of the complaint of those ladies was the alleged misapplication or detention of a portion of the stipends of the *muhl*, uniformly received from the Begum, and paid as regularly by Tuhseen Alee Khan into his Excellency's treasury, by his orders. The allowance for the intercalary month, and the *batta* on *Rukabee* Rupees, if granted out of the surplus of those stipends, occasioned by casualties in the *muhl*, would put an end to every fear of disorder, and would be sufficient to reconcile the ladies to any arrangement which might be made for the future superintendence of the *muhl*, far more so to the restoration of Tuhseen, to whom they had uniformly professed the most sincere personal attachment, while remonstrating against the deductions from their allowance, and urging him to support this remonstrance. I entreated his Excellency to banish all such imaginary fears as this from his mind, to reconsider the purport of his obligation to her Highness the Begum under the guarantee of the British Government, and by complying with her just and moderate desire of the reinstatement of Tuhseen Alee Khan in his office, to anticipate and preclude her Highness's probable demand of the satisfaction of all her rights under the obligation in question, nay, of the repayment of the sums of money hitherto received by his Excellency as the surplus of the stipends of the *khoord muhl*, to be distributed among the survivors at her discretion. The Vizier seemed greatly impressed by this last observation on my part, and promised to summon Tuhseen Alee Khan to his presence on that or the following day, for the purpose of reinstating him in his office.

24. I now reminded his Excellency that his promises at our former conference, with a reference to the exaction of duties from the merchants or traders of Cawnpore, were still remaining to be fulfilled; and I informed him that more recent complaints of the violence and extortion of his officers and subjects, in the districts of Sandee and Belgram, had been received from the merchants and traders. Repeated assurances of the most ample satisfaction on this point, and of the redress of the grievances of Gungapershaud and Joorawun Sing, sepoys, were conveyed to me on this occasion by his Excellency; and on a retrospect of all the subordinate points which are noticed in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, one question only occurred to my recollection at this time, which had not already and recently been discussed, and in a manner adjusted between us.

25. The question alluded to was that of the redress of the grievances of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, the restoration of his hereditary rights possessions and privileges in the district of Sandee, of all which he had been most unjustly and violently deprived by the Aumil and others in that district, with his Excellency's sanction, or by his orders.

26. With a reference to this question I observed, that it might be considered, with justice, as a matter of more immediate and personal interest to myself, than any other subject of discussion that had arisen between his Excellency and me during the period of my residence at his Court. Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan had been my servant for more than fifteen years, and had uniformly during that period conducted himself so as to merit my approbation and regard. In former times, like every other landholder under the Government of Oude, he had been subjected occasionally to violence and oppression for a time, but had uniformly obtained either total or partial redress, through the intercession of former Residents, particularly of Mr. Middleton, during the Government of the late Nawab Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and of Mr. Lumsden, Colonel Scott, and Colonel Collins, since his Excellency's accession to the musnud. To those latter gentlemen

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lemen he had been known but through the medium of my recommendation ; yet their intercession, as in a just cause, had usually prevailed, and had uniformly served to maintain him in the possession of at least a considerable portion of those allowances privileges and rights, of which he was now entirely dispossessed, while in the confidential employment of the Government as being my principal Moonshee, and having charge of all the Persian records of my office. That it was true, I had long been restrained, by motives of personal delicacy, from urging the redress of the Moonshee's grievances to his Excellency, in such terms as a sense of public duty would have led me to use, and have enabled me to apply with success, in behalf of any other subject or dependant of the British Government, whose complaints might have come before me ; but that a knowledge of this circumstance, and a conviction of the justice of the Moonshee's claims and complaints in his Excellency's mind, should have naturally tended to the redress of the grievances stated, as soon as they were known to his Excellency ; and that, at all events, when the deficiency in my representations was so fully and so ably supplied by a direct communication from the Government, in the name of the Vice-President in Council, containing or accompanied by a detail of the obvious grounds of justice on which the redress of those grievances was claimed, it was difficult to account for any further delay in the satisfaction of the Moonshee's rights, unless indeed it were supposed that the situation of the claimant, as a servant of the British Government confidentially employed by me, had rendered him obnoxious to his Excellency's displeasure.

27. The Vizier most solemnly disavowed any ground of displeasure with the Moonshee ; professed his uniform readiness to consider and admit of his claims against the Government, in-as far as they were supported by *sunnuds* ; nay, without reference to the justice of his claims, to grant him a yearly allowance for *nankar*, as a mark of personal friendship for me, which had been frequently offered and rejected ; and with regard to his disputes with other subjects of the Government, to refer them for investigation to the Adawlut, which was the only tribunal that could decide on the merits of such questions or disputes.

28. I replied, that I had uniformly restricted my views in the Moonshee's behalf to such possessions in the district of Sandee as were clearly established to belong to him by proofs and *sunnuds* the most satisfactory and authentic that could be conceived. That for proof of his zemindary rights, and of his title to a share of the allowances and privileges of Chowdree and Canoongoe in the district of Sandee, in common with numerous other branches of his family, who were actually now in possession of their respective shares of those rights, the uninterrupted possession of his ancestors for a period of nearly two-hundred years, proceeding on a firmaun under the seal of the Emperor Shah Jehan, was surely more than sufficient. That the distribution of those rights, allowances, and privileges, among the various branches of the Moonshee's family at two successive periods, one of them antecedent to the authority of his Excellency's ancestors over Oude, and the particular shares allotted to the ancestors of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan and to himself, were authenticated and determined by original documents, the written acknowledgments of the parties to the distribution, against which no grounds of cavil could be stated. That for the particular share of the Moonshee's ancestor in a direct line, Seyyed Chiragh Alee, namely, the village of Tutha Nuggur rent free (subsequently exchanged for Muhwa Colie), and a yearly allowance in money of one thousand two hundred rupees (for which the village of Mohummud Nuggur Tiloween was afterwards substituted), he possessed original *sunnuds*, under the seals of the Nawabs Abdoola Khan and Azeez Khan, jagierdars of Sandee, before that district, with the province of Oude, came into the possession of Boorhan-ool-Moolk, his Excellency's ancestor ; and under those *sunnuds*, without renewal or objection, the possession of the Moonshee's ancestors proceeded till about the period of the demise of the late Nawaub Shuja-ood-Dowlah, when the whole race of the Seyyeds of Sandee were dispossessed of their rights for a time, through the influence of a Hindoo, who claimed those rights as a descendant of the ancient Zemindars in possession before the edict of Shah Jehan. That the rights of the Seyyeds had been restored to them shortly after the accession of Asuf-ood-Dowlah to the musnud ; and that immediately after this restoration, the

title

title of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan had been recognized and confirmed in his own person, through the influence of Mr. Middleton, then Resident at this Court, as appeared by an authenticated copy of an order issued by Hyder Beg Khan to the Aumil of Sandee, by an original letter under the seal and signature of Mr. Middleton, addressed to the same Aumil, and by an original order from the Aumil of Sandee to his Naib. That subsequent confirmations, the most ample, of the title of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan to every right, possession, and privilege, which had been claimed by me in his behalf, were exhibited in three original mandates under the seal of the Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, addressed to the Aumils of Sandee, and in corresponding orders to those officers under the seal of the minister, Hyder Beg Khan, and of the British Resident at this Court, who was authorized and accustomed in those days to issue orders to the officers of this Government on every question of importance which came before him. That under those sunnuds the Moonshee's possession of all his rights was uniformly acknowledged, nay, supported and maintained by this Government and its officers, though occasionally and partially disturbed by his associates and opponents in Sandee, till the death of Almass Alee Khan, whose authority had been always exerted in support of the Moonshee's rights. That on occasions of partial usurpation or molestation by the Moonshee's associates in the zemindary, and in the rights of Chowdree and Canoongoe, the mediation of the Residents at this Court had been constantly offered, and admitted in his behalf, as was established by the records of my office, more especially in the time of Colonel Scott, when a mandate under his Excellency's seal, to the address of Almass Alee Khan, was obtained, directing that Aumil's support of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan in the maintenance of all his possessions.

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29. For a further and more accurate detail of all the arguments which I had now stated to his Excellency, and for authenticated copies of all the sunnuds and other documents described, I referred his Excellency to my letters in his possession; and for the deliberate and impartial judgment of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, on the whole of the merits of the case, as explained in those letters, and his Excellency's answers to them, I referred to the Vice-President's letter under date the 29th of March 1811.

30. His Excellency disavowed his being in possession of any authenticated sunnuds to establish the Moonshee's rights, expressed the necessity of his receiving and taking time to examine and investigate the sunnuds for each particular claim before he should be required to admit it, renewed his offer of a yearly allowance to the Moonshee as nankar, with a view to my satisfaction, or as a proof of his friendship for me, and for the purpose of saving trouble. This offer I rejected of course, and entreated his Excellency to revise our correspondence on the subject of the Moonshee's claims, to peruse the copies of the sunnuds which were conveyed and referred to in that correspondence, and if a doubt existed in his mind regarding the authenticity of any one of the sunnuds, to require the original from me, and compare it with the copy in my presence, or with the view of saving him trouble, to depute a confidential servant, or appoint his minister to confer on the question with me, to examine the original sunnuds and collate them with the copies in his possession, or with new copies, which I engaged to prepare. His Excellency now seemed unwilling to continue the discussion of this question, complained of a violent head-ache, promised to take an early opportunity of revising the correspondence and sunnuds, and to communicate the result to me at our next conference, which was fixed for that day se'nnight, the 4th ultimo.

31. During the interval between this and my next conference with the Vizier, his Excellency seemed unnecessarily dilatory in the fulfilment of many of the promises which were made to me at our interview of the 18th of June; and my daily messages to his Excellency, having reference to the reinstatement of Tuhseen Alee Khan, to the redress of the grievances of Gungapershaud havildar, and Joorawun Sing sepoy, to the continued exaction of duties from the merchants and traders of Cawnpore, and a few other subordinate points, were answered by frivolous excuses, which indicated a disposition to evade the satisfactory adjustment of points that no longer admitted of discussion.

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32. To a message on the 29th of June, soliciting in earnest terms the immediate and final adjustment of those points, with a view to my reporting it to Government, in confirmation of the favourable report which I had made on the 20th of that month, by his Excellency's particular desire, I received an answer from his Excellency, importing that he was actually occupied in writing and issuing his orders to give effect to the assurances which he had made to me on all those subordinate points, and would convince me of the truth of this assertion at our next meeting, when he intended to make a particular and earnest request on his own part, to which he would entreat my most favourable attention.

33. Considering the import of this message to be nothing else than a subterfuge on the part of his Excellency, I determined to present the Governor-General's letter to him without any further delay, and to render the substance of that letter the ground-work of all my future discussions and arguments on the points to which it referred.

34. His Excellency listened with great attention to the contents of his Lordship's letter, which I read to him from a copy carried with me for that purpose, being aware of his inclination to evade the perusal of such letters in my presence. He interrupted me several times to comment on some passages of the letter, particularly that in which his supersession of Tuhseen Alee Khan in the superintendence of the khoord muhl is described as his appointment of a person of his own selection, to *collect*, as his Excellency professed to understand it in the Persian, or to *receive*, as in the English copy, the revenue of the jaidad, and to distribute it to the ladies of the muhl. He disavowed his ever having made such an appointment, declared that the Governor-General was misinformed; and boasting, as it were, of the advantage which the application of this particular word in his Lordship's letter afforded him, he added, that he could give a satisfactory reply to that and every other part of the letter.

35. I treated this absurdity, of course, as it deserved, and explained the meaning of the words in his Lordship's letter to be merely the supersession of Tuhseen Alee Khan by the appointment of another person to execute those duties, which he had performed with the consent and approbation of the Begum, namely, to *receive* the stipends from her Highness (not of course to collect them from the jaidad, which had never been the duty of the Nazir) and to distribute them to the ladies of the muhl; in short, the appointment of a Nazir or superintendent of the khoord muhl, contrary to the will of her Highness the Begum, whose exclusive control and authority over the muhl was expressly provided for by treaty, under the Honourable Company's guarantee.

36. His Excellency made no reply to the above explanation on my part, and waving any further discourse on the subject of the Governor-General's letter, he proceeded to convey to me his particular and earnest request, which to my astonishment, after solemnly disavowing its connection in any degree with the contents of the letter just read, he announced to be that of my assistance in obtaining the permission of the Government for his departure without delay on a pilgrimage. He declared that, on this condition, he would immediately do all that was required of him in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, and every thing which I might propose, but that otherwise he would do nothing till his answer to the letter should be prepared.

37. I had very considerable difficulty in commanding my countenance into no more than a smile on the occasion of a proposition so extremely puerile and absurd, though at the same time so characteristic of his Excellency. During the whole time of breakfast, in the highest possible spirits, and in a manner the most gracious towards me, he had been talking of his proposed amusements for the ensuing cold season, of horse-racing, and of his horses expected from England, exhibiting designs for new palaces and decorations of rooms, the execution of which had commenced, and the completion of which, if intended, must occupy and serve to amuse him for a period of several years; and thus did his Excellency, without a blush or the smallest hesitation in his expression, declare to me in a serious manner, calling God to witness his truth, that an immediate or early departure on a pilgrimage, a release from the cares and troubles of sovereignty, had

had been for a considerable period of time the leading object of his desire, the principal purpose of his heart.

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38. My answer to the above declaration, in as far as it seems worthy of being recorded, was merely to the following effect. That his Excellency could not expect me to suppose him serious in harbouring or expressing such a design. That he had made use of similar expressions to me on one occasion before, shortly after my arrival at his Court, and that in consequence, as I believed, of my remonstrances against the measures of violence which were then meditated against Tuhseen Alee Khan, the unhappy object of his aversion, I should have added of his relentless and unmerited persecution, which he now seems resolved to continue till the death of this aged and faithful servant of his house. That I had ample reason to consider the proposal of a pilgrimage, or of his Excellency's quitting his Government, if it had ever been seriously made, as entirely abandoned by his Excellency; and that the renewal of it on this occasion could, in my judgment, have no other view than the evasion of a satisfactory answer to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter of the 28th of December 1810, and of the further purposes and objects of the letter which I had now read in his presence; but I added, that if his Excellency were really serious in this proposal, and should repeat his request to me at our next interview in a grave and dispassionate manner, I should be prepared with a satisfactory reply. I now took my leave of the Vizier; and the purport of his particular and earnest request on the morning of the 4th ultimo, though once slightly hinted at in a message through the channel of my Moonshee, has never been repeated in my presence.

39. My next conference with the Vizier was on the morning of the 18th ultimo, when his Excellency did me the honour to breakfast with me. During the interval between this and our former interview, Tuhseen Alee Khan had been twice admitted into the Presence, had nominated his deputy to proceed to Fyzabad for the purpose of taking charge of the khoord muhl, a letter had been prepared to announce his re-appointment, and the name of his deputy, to the ladies, and ultimately, after repeated remonstrances on my part, a khelat had been sent to the deputy, but in such a manner as to convince the Nazir, the ladies of the muhl, and every respectable inhabitant of Lucknow, as well as myself, that the measure of Tuhseen's reinstatement was by no means spontaneous on the part of his Excellency, and that its failure would be gratifying to his mind.

40. I submitted all these circumstances, and explained their obvious tendency, to the Vizier at our conference on the 18th ultimo. I predicted disorders in the muhl, and did not hesitate to pronounce that his Excellency was the only person responsible for those disorders. I submitted to him the reports of my news-writer in Fyzabad, from which it was clear and unquestionable that intrigues had already commenced, for the purpose of defeating an arrangement prescribed by the British Government, in strict observance of its own public faith, and which its power might be justly applied to enforce; and after entreating his Excellency to reflect on the nature of those observations, I remarked, that as he must now be much occupied in preparing his answer to the Governor-General's letter, I would not detain him any longer.

41. As his Excellency was taking leave of me, I reminded him, in a few words, of his promise to revise our correspondence on the subject of my Moonshee's claims, and he declared, to my astonishment, that on inquiring for those papers, he discovered that the death of a servant, to whom they were committed, had occasioned their being lost or mislaid. I instantly assured him in reply, though aware of the nature of this subterfuge from repeated experience on former occasions, with a reference to more important and original documents, that duplicates of all my letters, with authenticated copies of his own copies, and of the Moonshee's sunnuds, should be prepared and submitted without any delay. His Excellency reverted to his unreasonable and frivolous demand of all the original sunnuds to be inspected and examined at his leisure, and I repeated my former proposal on this subject without success.

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42. On the morning of the 28th ultimo I waited on his Excellency, with the view of endeavouring to gather from his conversation on the leading topics of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, the general tenor of the answer which he was occupied in framing to that letter, and taking advantage of any opportunity which might arise of enlarging on the arguments which it contained.

43. His Excellency, as usual on such occasions, was extremely guarded in his remarks with a reference to the Governor-General's letter. He acknowledged, generally, his conviction of the absolute necessity of a compliance with his Lordship's suggestions and advice, that he had no other friend nor protector in the world than his Lordship, no resource but in obedience to his will. He would offer a candid statement of all the circumstances and transactions referred to in his Lordship's letter, and submit the decision to his judgment. There were some points discussed in the letter which had been already satisfactorily adjusted in compliance with my desire; there were others which he would concede as far as possible; and with regard to some, in which his acquiescence was impossible without diminishing his consequence and power, he would state the grounds of that impossibility to his Lordship, and leave the questions to his Lordship to decide.

44. I requested his Excellency to inform me whether the grounds and arguments to which he now alluded had been already under discussion with me, or were suggested by more recent consideration. I submitted, that the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, in framing his last letter to his Excellency, could not be supposed to have overlooked any part of the former discussions on the important question of reform, or on any of the subordinate questions and claims which had been agitated between his Excellency and me, and referred by me to the Government, in consequence of our difference in opinion. That the grounds of this difference in opinion, in his Excellency's language as well as mine, had been fully detailed in my despatches containing copies of the correspondence between us, and that, under such circumstances as these, it would obviously argue on the part of his Excellency a want of consideration for the dignity of the British Government, as well as of just deference to its counsels, if those counsels should again be evaded or opposed, by the same arguments and objections which had already been offered and repelled. That the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, to use the impressive language with which his Lordship's letter concluded, had "solicited nothing" from his Excellency but what justice, his own reputation, the prosperity of "his country, and the spirit of the subsisting alliance demanded," and that it behoved his Excellency to hesitate and reflect maturely, while framing his answer to that letter, on the nature of such requests and suggestions as those, and the probability at least, if not the certainty, of their being hereafter converted into demands, in the case of protracted refusal to comply with them, or of evasion, upon slight and frivolous grounds, that had already obtained ample consideration.

45. His Excellency listened with great attention, but made no reply to those remarks; and despairing of gaining an accurate knowledge of his intentions with a reference to any particular question by further general discourse, I renewed the discussion of a few of the subordinate points which still remained to be adjusted.

46. The measures suggested for the restitution of the sums of money exacted by his Excellency's officers and landholders from the merchants of Cawnpore and Futhaghur, though repeatedly and almost daily promised by his Excellency, had not yet been carried into effect, the redress of the grievances of Gungapershaud and Joorawun Sing remained to be accomplished, and the leave of absence of those persons had expired.

47. I now exhibited and read to his Excellency in Persian, from the original English in my hands, the substance of your despatch of the 25th of June last, having reference to a number of questions, and particularly to the two last above described, observing to his Excellency, that though furnished with the sentiments of the Government on the cases of those men, and with its positive instructions to insist on the most ample redress of their grievances, I was still disposed

to

to acquiesce in the moderate degree of redress which was originally suggested by myself, and to receive that measure of compensation for the wrongs sustained by our sepoys, as a proof of his Excellency's disposition to comply with my own friendly advice, unconnected with the support which it had obtained from the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

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48. The Vizier became visibly impressed with a conviction of the impropriety of his conduct and correspondence in regard to Gungapershaud and Joorawun Sing. He replied to me in these remarkable words: "I have acted unwisely, and I have suffered for it: forgive me, and what you desire shall be done." He has since performed his promise, though I am sorry to repeat, with reluctance, as is stated in a former paragraph of this despatch. A public officer of his Government has also proceeded, at my desire, attended by an armed force, and accompanied by an accredited agent on the part of the merchants and traders of Cawnpore, for the purpose of enforcing the restitution of the illegal exactions from those persons, and taking penal bonds from all the landholders on the banks of the Ganges and Gagra, to preclude future complaints.

49. I now submitted to his Excellency a letter received the day before from her Highness the younger Begum, in answer to a message which I had sent to her, announcing my intention of a visit. A translation of this letter is enclosed for the Right Honourable the Governor-General's perusal, and the contents of it clearly indicate what has since been more fully established, that her Highness's just resentment of the Vizier's unnatural conduct towards her had risen at length to a degree, which left little or no prospect of a cordial reconciliation between them. I suggested to his Excellency on this occasion, the propriety of some direct and unequivocal manifestation of his good will and liberality towards the Begum, such as the commutation of the supply of her kitchen for an allowance in ready money, with the view of assisting my endeavours to appease her.

50. This proposal his Excellency declined, on the ground of our former agreement, that an attempt at least to reconcile them to each other should precede his concession of her claims; and being determined to wait on her Highness at all events, in conformity with my promise to the Vizier, I waved the further discussion of this question till the result of my visit should be known.

I then reminded his Excellency, that a month had nearly elapsed since his receipt of the letter from the Governor-General, and that the delay of more than a year in replying to former letters should be atoned for, on the present occasion, by a speedy and satisfactory reply.

51. From the 28th ultimo until the 25th instant, I had no conference with the Vizier. His Excellency visited me on the 11th instant, but complained of a severe head-ache, and declined entering into conversation on business, assuring me, however, on this occasion, as he had regularly assured me in answer to my daily messages since our last conference, that his letter to the Governor-General was very nearly finished and should be sent to me in a few days. He further announced his intention, with the view of making some arrangement in behalf of Hoosein Alee Khan, to summon first that person, and afterwards Akbur Alee Khan into his presence, and to inform me of the result of his proceedings and further deliberation on this subject, which was, he added, the only point of his letter on which his mind was not entirely made up.

52. I have since understood from Hoosein Alee Khan, that his Excellency addressed him on the 12th instant in nearly the following words: "Your father was a zealous and faithful servant of this Government, and on a memorable occasion of disagreement between my brother and the English Government he proceeded in person to Calcutta, for the purpose of adjusting all the matters in dispute. An unpleasant discussion has now arisen between me and the English Government, and you are the sole cause of it. Is this becoming your condition, and the character and services of your father? What do you require from me? Can I settle your dispute with your brother? I shall send for and admonish him to-morrow. What more do you desire?"

53. Hoosein Alee Khan informs me that he submitted to his Excellency, in reply, the wretched condition to which he was reduced, partly by the obstinacy

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of his brother, and partly by his Excellency's unkindness. That the claims of his father's posterity upon this Government were independent of their disputes with each other, and that the pension and jagier which they enjoyed for many years, indeed uniformly from the death of their father till his Excellency's accession to the musnud, were known to all ranks and descriptions of people at Lucknow.

54. His Excellency dismissed Hoosein Alee Khan immediately after hearing the above statement, and has not sent for him again. Akbur Alee Khan, who is still confined in the dowlut khana, and with other prisoners of this Government under charge of the Honourable Company's sepoy, though under his Excellency's exclusive authority and control, has been twice summoned into the Presence, but the result of his attendance is unknown to me.

55. On the morning of Tuesday the 25th instant I waited on his Excellency the Vizier, and had a long conference with his Excellency. Concluding, from his message of the preceding day, that his letter to the Governor-General must be prepared, I suggested the propriety of my being permitted to revise the draft of it with his Excellency before it should be copied for transmission, with the view of saving unnecessary trouble to both of us, by now offering such remarks for his consideration as the tenor of the draft might suggest to me, instead of submitting them eventually hereafter, in the form of a written remonstrance, when the letter should be finally prepared.

56. His Excellency declined producing the draft, on the grounds that it was not customary to do so, and that it would be time enough to submit my remarks when I found any thing in his letter to require them, and that, of course, it should be sent open for my perusal.

57. Being thus disappointed in my hope of ascertaining his Excellency's intention with regard to the question of reform and the other unadjusted points of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, I still considered it to be my duty, and as I termed it, an act of friendship for his Excellency, to take a final summary review of the discussions which had recently occurred on the subjects which remained to be adjusted. I used every argument that I could devise to induce his cordial acquiescence in the general system of reform, recommended by the Government for his adoption. I pointed out to him the fallacy of his apprehensions with regard to the complete success of the reform, if entered into with a sincere disposition, on his part, to promote the objects in view. I argued, with a reference not only to this question but to the establishment of courts of justice and police throughout Oude, the re-establishment of Tuhseen Alee Khan's authority over the Khoord Muhl, and universally to the successful execution and accomplishment of every just measure and view which could form an object of mutual interest to the two States, that two things only were required to give perfect efficiency to such measures; namely, a sincere and cordial disposition to promote them on the part of his Excellency, and the exertion of the British influence and power in aid of his Excellency's authority, justly applied and directed. That it was in vain, nay, absurd, to express or contemplate material difficulty or opposition in the progress of just measures to be thus undertaken and supported; and that the apprehended diminution of his Excellency's consequence or authority, by his acquiescence in the friendly advice of the British Government, or his application of the effectual support of its power, was equally imaginary and groundless: but that, whatever might be his Excellency's resolution on the important question of reform, his immediate admission of the alternative so frequently submitted by me and enforced by the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, was obviously as indispensable as it was just; and I considered it to be my duty to apprise his Excellency, once for all, that the unquestionable right of the British Government, which his Lordship had thus defined and established in his letter, could never, on any principle, nor by any evasion, be set aside.

58. I then recapitulated the grounds and arguments on which the claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan had been so strongly recommended to his Excellency's favourable consideration by the Honourable the Vice-President, the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and by myself, in several impressive letters,
and

and at two recent conferences with his Excellency. I stated some additional arguments in behalf of Hoosein Alee Khan, arising out of information more recently obtained of his Excellency's promise to Lord Wellesley, during his Lordship's visit to Lucknow, regarding the future regular payment of all the pensions of this Government, and the liquidation of the arrears which were due; and, finally, I reminded his Excellency of the strong and remarkable words in the Governor-General's letter, with a reference to Hoosein Alee Khan: "It is impossible for me to cease from troubling your Excellency on this subject until," &c. It behoved his Excellency to deliberate on the tendency of those expressions while forming his resolution on this question.

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59. With a reference to the superintendence of the Khoord Muhl, I submitted some letters from her Highness the Begum and papers of intelligence from my news-writer at Fyzabad; from which it was clearly established that the disgraceful and disorderly conduct of the ladies of the Muhl, if not expressly sanctioned by his Excellency, had at the least his gratification for its object; and I warned his Excellency that those statements would, of necessity, be forwarded to the Presidency, as a comment on any remarks which he might offer, of a tendency to subvert the arrangement that had been made in compliance with my advice.

60. With regard to the younger Begum, I expressed my sincere concern at her seemingly fixed and unalterable resolution of quitting his Excellency's country and avoiding a reconciliation with him. I apprized him of the day (the following Thursday) which had been fixed for my conference on this subject with her Highness, and promised to let him know the result; and after receiving an assurance from his Excellency, who had listened to me with attention for an hour, that he would meditate on all that I had said to him, and again refer to all his papers, more particularly to the record of his discussions with Lord Wellesley at Lucknow, before he finally transmitted his answer to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, I took my leave, with a well-grounded hope that the answer would be highly satisfactory on every question of importance to be treated in it.

61. On the evening of the following day (the 26th instant), I received his Excellency's letter to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which should have been forwarded without any delay, and would have superseded the necessity for this voluminous detail of my proceedings, if it had not fallen far short of my reasonable hopes and expectations on every important point of its contents.

62. I should have failed in the discharge of my duty, and should have ill repaid the confidence and support which his Lordship in Council has uniformly, and now more especially, been pleased to afford to me, if I had suffered such a letter as this to proceed to his Lordship's address without previously remonstrating on the contents of it. Although humble and submissive in its language and manner throughout, and expressive of an ultimate resolution to abide by his Lordship's decision on all the questions at issue, it is so full of the Vizier's characteristic deceit and evasion, so replete with erroneous statements of every fact and argument that it contains, as to exceed in all those characteristic qualities every former production of his Excellency's that has fallen under my observation.

63. I have written and transmitted a strong remonstrance to his Excellency, the effect of which remains to be seen, and I have requested an early communication of his wishes regarding the despatch or detention of his letter.

64. Before concluding this despatch, I must report, as I do with concern, for his Lordship in Council's information, the total failure of my endeavours to bring about a cordial, or indeed any degree of reconciliation between the Vizier and her Highness the younger Begum. I waited on her Highness by her appointment on the morning of the 27th instant, and remained in attendance and conversation with her for upwards of two hours. The detail of her manifold grievances, of the indignities, inhumanity, degradation, and contempt, which she had suffered at the hands of her brother, and seemed determined to suffer

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no longer, would require a volume to be stated. I perceived immediately, as indeed I had foreseen for several weeks, that the time for conciliation was past, that the irritation of her Highness's mind was too great to be appeased any longer by promises, or indeed by acts of kindness from the Vizier; that the miserable preparations for her journey from Lucknow, inadequate as they must prove to her comfort, were already actually made, and that her departure on that very day had been prevented exclusively by my visit. Every argument, every entreaty on my part, every assurance of future kindness and generous treatment on the part of her brother, were offered and repeated in vain. She exclaimed, that "she had been treated like a child, like a slave, by a person whom she was born to command; that death was sweet and desirable compared with such an existence; and what could I suppose her, under such circumstances, to apprehend from the fatigues or even dangers of a journey, more especially such a journey as this, from an enemy's country to a friend's. The British territory was the only friendly country left to her, the Governor-General her only friend and protector. To that country, to his Lordship, she would fly for an asylum; and unless I sought her immediate death, I could neither wish to prevent nor detain her." At length, with the greatest reluctance, and in a state of mind which I cannot attempt to describe, her Highness was induced by my repeated and earnest entreaty to limit her journey for the present to the principal town in her jagier, at the distance of twelve cosses from this city, and there she has promised to await the result of my communication to Government of her fixed and unalterable resolution to quit the capital and country of Oude, and to reside in the Honourable Company's dominions, at any station, and under any circumstances, which may be prescribed to her.

65. My subsequent proceedings and correspondence with her Highness and with the Vizier, regarding her, shall form the subject of a future despatch.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
31st August 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

From Her Highness the Bhow Begum. (Received 10th Shabaun 1227,
19th August 1812.)

I have conformed to your advice regarding the Khoord Muhl, and on the representation of Mohummud Nughut I have issued the necessary instructions to my people, who are posted on all sides round the Khoord Muhl, and by guarding the avenues of ingress and egress have prevented the ladies from quitting it. The adoption of this measure greatly confounded them, and they were on the point of dropping further opposition, and submitting to authority, when letters from Mirza Shujat Alee Khan Behadur, brother of my son Saadut Alee Khan Behadur, and from other persons at Lucknow, of a nature tending to encourage them in their views, were received and excited a fresh disposition to commotion. Mirza Seraj-ud-deen Hyder Khan Behadur, Mirza Kumalood-deen Hyder Khan Behadur, and Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan Behadur, have likewise been instrumental in deceiving those ladies, and may be considered as principal agents in fomenting their discontents. To stop their allowance is therefore the only effectual remedy left, for until they experience the extremity of privation and distress, they will not relinquish their evil intentions. If my son, Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan Behadur, were to address a letter to the following effect to his brothers, Mirza Seraj-ud-deen Hyder Khan Behadur, Mirza Kumal-ud-Deen Hyder Khan Behadur, and Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan Behadur, there is no doubt that it would be completely successful; "Her Highness the Begum being equally your parent as she is mine, you must deport yourselves according to her will, and persuade the ladies of the Khoord Muhl to submit themselves to her authority and to return to their respective habitations, to receive their stipends month after month, and enjoy all the ease and comforts of their situation, and any opposition to the orders of her Highness will be not only ruinous to themselves, but will also draw down upon all of them my greatest displeasure, as well as that of her Highness." Let my son likewise address an arzdasht to me to this effect; that I am the sole

sole controller of the Khoord Muhl, that I should use my own discretion in pacifying the members of it and inducing them to return to their houses, that if they oppose my authority it will be necessary for me to take effectual measures for obliging them to repair to their houses, and that he will assist me in those measures. When an arzdasht and letter of the foregoing purport shall be received from my son, and the ladies of the Khoord Muhl shall be made acquainted with the contents of them, they will immediately desist from all further noise and resistance, and will betake themselves to their respective apartments, without offering the smallest objection whatever.

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Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From the same. (Received 21st Shabaun, 30th August 1812.)

Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

I have repeatedly written to you on the subject of the Khoord Muhl, that the ladies of it had lost all sense of shame, and would not, without punishment, be brought to submit to control. At your desire my people were employed, under my instructions, in carefully guarding the Khoord Muhl, when yesterday, two messengers reached them from Lucknow, with letters from their daughters to this effect: "That they must break through all restraints, and advance to Lucknow." Accordingly, this morning the ladies of the Khoord Muhl assembled in a tumultuous manner, aided by Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan and others, who drew their swords on the occasion, threatening violence to my people who guarded them, quitted the Muhl, and took the road to Rekabgunge. I formerly wrote, and desired you to obtain and despatch to me an arzdasht from my son, the Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan Behadur, to my address, with the view of putting a stop to these disorderly proceedings, and inducing those women to return quickly to their homes. As no arzdasht has been transmitted to me, it has no doubt impressed them with an opinion that their object could not be accomplished here, and, in consequence, they have to-day moved out to Rekabgunge, which is in the direct road to Lucknow.

I have heard that my son, Saadut Alee Khan Behadur, has assured those ladies, through his brother, Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan Behadur, that as long as they lived he was the sole controller of their affairs, and that no other person whatever could interfere with them. This, of course, has excited them to quit the Muhl and proceed to Lucknow.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa. (Received the 27th July 1812.)

Letter
from the Begum,
Shums-oon-Nissa.

My Vakeel, Nuringen Doss Pundit, has represented to me, that it was your intention to pay me a visit, and that you requested me to fix a day for the purpose. This pleasing intelligence has afforded me the greatest happiness and joy. Praise be to God, that what I most ardently desired and was long anxiously hoping for, namely, that the Almighty would bring about some cause to induce you to pay me a visit, is now about to come to pass, and that, too, by your own request. Come to me without hesitation and make me happy, that I may have an opportunity of describing to you some little portion of the manifold distresses which I suffer from the harshness and oppression of my brother, whose conduct has reduced me to a state in which death must be preferable to existence. When my brother ascended the musnud, I received a letter from the Governor-General, Sir John Shore, which gave me every reason to hope and expect that the remainder of my life would be free from trouble or distress of any kind; and, under this expectation, although I might have easily obtained from the Governor-General's friendship the most ample establishments for myself, distinct from those of my brother, yet considering our rights and inte-

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Letter
from the Begum,
Shums-oon-Nissa.

rests to be the same, I did not consent to a separation, but on the contrary endeavoured to strengthen and increase the original ties of propinquity and friendship between us, by entering into new alliances. (The Begum's nephew is married to a daughter of the Vizier's, and his Excellency's third son to her niece.) Notwithstanding all which, my brother has uniformly treated me with the greatest contempt and disregard; so much so, that when his mother was indisposed, and I went to pay her a visit of friendly inquiry, forgetting all his former unkindness and harshness to myself, he happened to be there at the time, and on my arrival took no notice of me whatever, as if he could be ignorant of my arrival. I leave it to you to determine whether this was proper conduct or not. For myself, I was so much irritated and vexed at the time, that I made a vow of never meeting him in my life.

Every branch of my establishment has been done away: the property and possessions of my ancestors in Delhi have been usurped by him, and the lowest of his servants and minions have been taught to oppose and despise me.

During the residency of the late Colonel Scott, a favourite servant of mine was unjustly confined in the Chubootra by the Cutwaul, and his sontah, or badge, was hung up on the public road by way of contempt; and although I repeatedly remonstrated against this violence, no notice was taken of my complaint, till at length he was released by the Resident.

A piece of cultivated land on the bank of the River Goomtie, which belonged to my bazar, and half of the bazar itself, have been taken from me by my brother, and his officer of customs has recently ruined and driven away from my bazar every trader and shopkeeper who was attached to it. I have again and again stated all these circumstances to you, and you have exerted your utmost endeavours in my behalf, but no good effects have resulted from them.

You are well acquainted with the purchase of ground on the bank of the River Goomtie, which I made for the purpose of building on it, and the manner in which that purchase was frustrated. The whole of my jagier is going to ruin. The dispute between Sheikh Mocz-ood-Deen and Musaood remains unsettled.

But how long, and to what purpose, shall I trouble your patience with a detail of my sufferings and distresses, which have already filled hundreds of letters to your address. In short, the conduct of my brother has been such as to induce me to pray to God that I may never again see his face in this world, nor even at the resurrection; and, for the few days of my life which remain, I trust entirely to the friendship of the British Government for my protection from further degradation and disgrace, and for the reparation of all that I have suffered.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To John Monckton, Esq. Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 5th of June last, conveying a letter from the Right Honourable the Governor-General to the address of his Excellency the Vizier.

2. His Excellency's answer to that letter was received on the 26th ultimo, and with a reference to my despatch of the 31st ultimo to the chief Secretary to Government, should now have been forwarded to you; but his Excellency having subsequently requested me to suspend the transmission of his letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, with a view to his reconsidering the contents of it, I deem it proper to transmit to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the enclosed copy of that letter, with a copy of the
remarks

remarks on its tenor, which I submitted to his Excellency the Vizier on the morning of the 29th ultimo, and which have led to the delay in the transmission of his original letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's address.

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3. A letter from her Highness the Bhow Begum to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, having reference to some recent disturbances in the Khoord Muhl of Fyzabad, is also transmitted to you by this despatch.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure in a letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Persian Secretary to Government, dated the 5th, and received the 18th of September 1812.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, dated the 26th August 1812.

Enclosure in
Resident's Letter.

After expressing my desire for the pleasure of a personal meeting with your Lordship, which is the chief object of my wishes, I proceed to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of the 8th of May last, replete with sentiments of friendship and regard, and stating that you had expected to receive answers to your letter of the 28th of December 1810, and to two letters from the Vice-President of the 29th of March and 12th of July 1811, the former on the subject of the claims of Moonshree Alee Nuckee Khan, and the latter in favour of Hoosein Alee Khan, son of the late Hyder Beg Khan. I have fully understood the contents of your Lordship's letter. The suspension and delay which has occurred in the transmission of an answer have been occasioned by the discussions which have taken place between me and Major Baillie. The objections which occurred to my mind during those discussions I stated to the Resident in writing. As those objections have not yet been removed by Major Baillie, and as the execution of the several matters of business which formed the subjects of discussion has consequently remained suspended, from motives of respect and consideration for your Lordship, which I am ever disposed and attentive to observe, I suspended the transmission of my reply to your Lordship's letter. An answer to the letters of the Vice-President was not written, for reasons which are contained in the present letter to your Lordship's address. Now that your Lordship has kindly called me to your recollection, and favoured me with your letter above acknowledged, I consider it to be an indispensable duty to transmit a reply to your Lordship, and I proceed accordingly to state what is necessary to be represented. Under every circumstance, my expectation from the chief of the British Government, and more especially from so kind a friend as your Lordship is, that, in the affairs of my Government, and in the dominions subject to me, as well as in all my concerns, my power and authority may daily be strengthened and increased, and that, in the spirit of the friendship and amity established of old between the two States, and which is conspicuous to all the world, no manner of loss, injury, detriment, or diminution may take place, and that counsel and advice, such as may be productive of salutary effects, may be afforded to me by the chiefs of the British Government, and more especially by your Lordship.

In your letter of the 28th of December 1810, your Lordship has written with your friendly pen, that by the terms of the sixth article of the treaty of November 1801, I engaged to establish in my reserved dominions such a system of administration to be carried into effect by my own officers, as should be conducive to the prosperity of my subjects, and be calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants; and further, that with reference to this particular stipulation, the late Governor-General, Marquis Wellesley, in a paper which he delivered to me, under his seal and signature, in the year 1802, observed that I had engaged to advise with the British Government, and to conform to its Counsels in the establishment of an improved system of administration

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tration within the reserved dominions, and also in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of those dominions, and with the usual exercise of my established authority, and so forth. What your Lordship has written, as above, is right and true, nor is there any denial on my part. The case is this: At a former period I was desirous of sending my son with a detachment of British troops for the settlement of my reserved dominions, and that, with the approbation of Major Baillie, the Resident, he might establish a system of administration in those dominions. When I consulted the Resident on this point, that gentleman clearly and explicitly signified his prohibition, saying that, in an affair of this kind, the nomination and deputation of the Sahibzadah (that is to say, my son) were not necessary: the establishment of a system of administration was therefore not carried into execution. Your Lordship will decide with justice, that in the introduction and establishment of a system of administration in my dominions, and in advising with the British Government on that subject, according to my engagements, I have not failed; and with respect to the system proposed by your Lordship in your letter above quoted, it was not carried into effect, in consequence of some doubts and objections which occurred to my mind. Those objections were repeatedly stated by me in writing to the Resident, and personally discussed between us. Conformably to the dictates of the friendship which I entertain for your Lordship, I now feel it to be an incumbent duty that I should of necessity state some of those objections for your consideration: they are as follows. Your Lordship, in your letter above quoted, has written, that "if the assessment of the lands throughout the country should be regulated by the real assets of the several districts, to be ascertained by actual investigation, and be fixed for a certain time, and if that assessment should be increased only in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the several districts which might be expected to arise from an approved system of administration," and so forth. The case is this: That without the actual measurement of the lands of the several mouzahs and villages of the country; and without ascertaining the particular quantity of cultivated lands and lands capable of cultivation, village by village, and the boundaries accurately defined; and unless the Canoongoes, Chowdries and Putwarries, give a detailed statement of all these particulars, and conceal nothing, and the Zemindars make no objection to the measurement of their lands, it appears to me that it will be difficult to ascertain the real assets of the several districts. With respect to the deputation of Ameens to ascertain all those particulars, apprehensions occur to me with regard to misconduct on their part, and to emigration and disgust on the part of the cultivators and renters, and to disorder and interruption in the receipt of the revenues, and to failure in the payment of balances in consequence of the introduction of a new system. All these objections will have been made known to your Lordship by the perusal of the letters which I addressed on this subject to the Resident.

With respect to Major Baillie's representation on the subject of establishing courts of Adawlut and police in the several districts of my dominions, under the management of officers of my Government, I am willing to appoint officers to those situations, conformably with the Resident's advice; but the accomplishment of these two objects cannot be contemplated, until every rebel and disaffected person in my territory shall have at once been effectually punished and rooted out of the country; until they find that if they seek an asylum in the British territories they will not be able to maintain themselves there; until they be utterly extirpated and the troops never desist from pursuing them; and, finally, until they be convinced that there is no place where they can establish themselves, secure from the troops of the Government. Thus, in the Honourable Company's dominions, whatever turbulent or disaffected person is proceeded against, until he is effectually punished he does not cease from his evil courses; moreover, in the police establishment of each individual place, where the people of the establishment, according to the system, can only be few in number, how will they be able to maintain order, when the turbulent and disaffected shall excite disturbance in large bodies?

With reference to your Lordship's observations regarding the right of investigating and arbitrating all such claims and demands on my part, and on the part of

of my Aumils, as the British troops may be required to support, and so forth : Whatever plan your Lordship may be pleased to adopt for the purpose of investigating and arbitrating all such claims and demands, so that my independent power and authority, as established by treaty, may not thereby be impaired, and my dignity and consequence be not diminished, in the slightest degree, in the eyes of my subjects, have the goodness to communicate it to me, and I am at your command. As I consider your Lordship to be my sincere and affectionate friend ; as all my prosperity, welfare, comfort, and happiness depend on your kindness and favour ; and as, excepting the members of the British Government, and your Lordship in particular, I know no protector and succourer ; if your Lordship, which God forbid, shall be dilatory and forgetful in affording me aid and assistance, and in taking a warm and active interest in the arrangement and settlement of my affairs, know for a certainty, that then, in such an event, the settlement and reform of my Government will be difficult to be accomplished by me.

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Your Lordship has been pleased to observe, that "it may not have occurred to me that your Lordship's temporary absence from the Presidency produced no change in the authority of the Government, and so forth." My Lord, I, who am your well-wisher and firmly attached to you, entertain the same sentiments of regard and attachment towards you in all circumstances, and at all times, equally in your presence and absence, when you are near and when you are far distant. Such a thought my imagination is not capable of conceiving. You will be pleased to consider such a representation, by whomsoever it may have been made, to be entirely erroneous. On mature reflection, your Lordship will be satisfied that a charge of the nature alluded to cannot with justice be attached to me.

Your Lordship has written with your friendly pen, that "I should no longer delay to exert my authority for the redress of the wrongs of which Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan has so much reason to complain." I never did, nor ever can entertain the idea of sacrificing the rights of any individual. The state of the case is this : The claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan are of two kinds ; one against my Government, and the other against his partners and associates. With respect to the first, let the Moonshee produce the original sunnuds, in succession, under the seal of my father, the late Nawaub Shuja-ood-Dowlah, and the seal of my brother, the late Nawaub Asoph-ood Dowlah, for the purpose of substantiating his claim and for my examination. In the event of his proving that the sources of provision stated in those sunnuds have been withheld during my Government, I will order them to be restored to him. With respect to the claims which he has against his partners, let him refer them to the court of Adawlut, where they will be decided according to the holy law. On this subject I have stated to your Lordship what appears fit to me ; but if it be not deemed so by your Lordship, be pleased to signify your wishes on this affair, that I may carry them into effect.

With reference to what your Lordship has written on the subject of the engagements concluded between her Highness the lady mother (Bhow Begum) and me, in the month of February 1798, according to my promise, I have never been guilty of any remission or neglect in shewing her every degree of respect and attention, and in doing every thing to promote her convenience and comfort ; but, on the part of the Begum, her Highness has observed a course of conduct the reverse of what is contained in the engagement, viz. that whenever requisite, she will afford me every degree of friendship and assistance in my affairs ; for on the occasion of Marquis Wellesley's coming to Lucknow, it having become necessary for me to pay a sum of money into the Company's Treasury, her Highness did not afford me any assistance whatever. As, by the engagement above mentioned, the British Government is the guarantee in all the affairs of the Begum, it becomes incumbent on it to devise means that the Begum may pay to me such a sum of money as may afford me assistance, and in future, whenever it may be requisite, she may befriend and assist me.

With reference to what your Lordship has written, "whether the appointment of a person of my own selection to collect the revenues of the jaidad.

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" and distribute it to the ladies of the muhl," and so forth, I have to inform your Lordship, that I never appointed a person to collect the revenues of the jaidad, and I have not removed the person who is appointed on the part of the Begum to receive the revenues of the jaidad. The fact is this: the Begum received the revenues of the jaidad by the hands of an officer (Aumil) of her own nomination, and sent the amount of the stipends through Tusheen Alee Khan, who on my part held the office of Nazir of the Deorhees (muhls), when the distribution of the stipends was made, and every matter of business, great or small, relating to the Deorhees, which arose, was submitted by the Khan to me, and executed by him according to my orders. Your Lordship will be kindly pleased to ascertain that her Highness had no right of interference in the distribution of the stipends of the muhls, or in their reduction or augmentation, or in any other matters connected with the Deorhees, and that she never exercised any superintendence over the affairs of the Khoord Muhl. The receipts of the ladies of the muhl were always brought to me; and if any of the persons in the muhls died, the charge of the funeral ceremonies devolved upon me. Had the ladies of the muhl understood that the Begum was vested with the superintendence of the affairs of the muhl, when would they ever have agreed to it? This is evident from the clamour and disturbance, and other proceedings, which have now taken place. With respect to what is contained in the engagement, that the stipends of the muhls shall be paid by the hands of the Begum, it does not appear to me by that stipulation that the ladies of the muhl should be subject to the authority of the Begum. As the ladies of the muhl had some time ago excited clamour and disturbance beyond all bounds, and as Tusheen, after repeated requisitions on my part, failed to propose any scheme for composing the disturbances (and my sole object in making such requisitions was to prevent the disgrace and dishonour which have occurred and which continue to take place), I was compelled, for the sake of restoring order and tranquillity in the muhl, to remove Tusheen Alee Khan from his office of Nazir; for unless I had removed him, the ladies would not have been satisfied, and no means could have been conceived for settling the disturbance. Your Lordship will be pleased to judge, whether or not I am the master (Wauris) of the ladies of the muhl; whether or not the management of the muhl is part of my household concerns; whether or not the honour of the ladies of the muhl is identified with my honour; whether or not, by treaty, I ought to have a control over my household concerns; and whether it is proper and becoming in me to acquiesce in the dishonour and disgrace of those ladies. With respect to what your Lordship has written, that I do not admit the right of the British Government to interfere in questions of this nature, the case is this: In all questions in which the guarantee and interference of the British Government are stipulated in the treaty, how can I but admit such right? I never oppose or deny it; but my expectation from your Lordship's kindness and favour is, that in my household concerns, &c. as stipulated in the treaty, no interruption or diminution of my power and authority may be suffered to take place. At no period of time have I ever disturbed the peace and comfort of her Highness; whereas, on the other hand, her Highness frequently manifests a disregard of my interests. If I propose to her Highness to adopt measures for putting a stop to the acts of tyranny and oppression which are practised in her jagier, my representations are ineffectual, and not well received; nay, to many of them, however necessary, she does not deign to return an answer, or if she does, it is only to say that they are false, and she causes my people to be beaten, and she has established herself in the possession of many places exclusive of her jagier. Such being the case, your Lordship will judge whether her Highness or I be in fault.

With regard to what your Lordship has written respecting the severe distress and vexation experienced by her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and that you have received copies of the letter which the Resident addressed to me on the subject, under date the 8th of April, and of the letter from her Highness to the Resident, to which it refers, and that your Lordship concurs entirely in the sentiments expressed in the Resident's letter, and that your Lordship has directed the Resident to make an application to me on this subject, and to request I would redress the grievances of which the Begum has reason to complain,

complain; the case is this: I am ready to redress any grievances of which the Begum can justly complain, and at no time have I ever concurred in, or permitted, any molestation or cause of grievance to her Highness, nor has ever such a thought entered, nor can it enter into my mind. On the other hand, however, several petty acts on the part of the Begum have occurred, which are a cause of grievance and distress to some poor people and a source of vexation to me: such, for example, as taking the property of another and not paying the price of it, or occupying a piece of ground without the consent of the owner. Nay, she even detained in her muhl the daughter of an injured Syyed, and when the father complained, she said that she had purchased the girl, nor would she attend to the representation of the Resident in his behalf. Your Lordship will be pleased to determine whether the sale of a mussulman is permitted by the Mahomedan law. Her Highness has also possessed herself of several places belonging to me. Be pleased to weigh this well; whether any one takes possession of the property of another without the consent of the proprietor. This also I have overlooked. Her Highness, moreover, has entirely given up the observance of those appearances and external forms which are suitable to the relation in which we stand to each other, of brother and sister; and when she is expostulated with on such points, she prepares to leave the city, and she frequently remarks, how can she remain a subject in a place where she possessed the rule; and with respect to settling the affairs of her jagier, on which she speaks to me, if any difficulty is made about sending my people there, she makes it a subject of complaint, and if my people are sent she accuses them of plunder. At the time when the Resident spoke to me on the subject of settling the business of the bazar attached to her deorhee, and of making an allowance in money in place of the khassa (victuals) which are furnished to her Highness from my household, I replied, "let her Highness observe the forms of respect which are due to my rank as sovereign, and the obligations of fraternal affection, and, on my part, to the extent of my ability, there shall be no failure in the manifestation of my duty towards her as one of the heads of the family, or in the cultivation of her good-will." Major Baillie asked me, if what he should submit to my consideration in this affair would be agreeable to me? I replied, certainly. At length it was settled, that Major Baillie should repair in person to her Highness's deorhee and reason and expostulate. In the end, however, the Resident did not repair in person to the Begum. Your Lordship will be pleased to deliberate maturely, whether any or what improper request has been made by me, and what cause of grievance to her Highness has arisen on my part. Her Highness will not consent to a reconciliation; nay, she declares that she has made a solemn vow to heaven never to see such a one's face, meaning me. Your Lordship will be pleased to judge whether it is her Highness who does not listen to the representation of the Resident, or whether it is I. It is my wish that her Highness should, in all matters, pay regard to what is due to me as the sovereign and as a brother, and that I, on my part, should promote her satisfaction and render her service. Further than this, whatever your Lordship shall desire, have the goodness to signify your pleasure to me, that I, who seek your satisfaction, may conform to it accordingly.

With reference to what your Lordship has written with your friendly pen, that "you have to regret the uniform disposition on my part to mark with my displeasure all those who are entitled to the protection and favour of the British Government, and to exhibit the inefficacy of its counsels on points affecting the honour and interests of my Government," I have to observe, that as I consider my prosperity and welfare to depend on the augmentation of the ties of friendship and union, and on the consolidation of the foundations of unanimity and concord with the British Government, and on the favour and kindness of your Lordship, which hitherto have happily increased from day to day; and as I deem attention to the interests, and consideration for those who have a title to the protection of the British Government to be conducive to the increase of my own reputation, how is it possible that I should mark such persons with my displeasure? If your Lordship had been kindly pleased to apprise me of the names and conditions of the persons alluded to, I should have entered into the particulars. How is it possible that I should turn away from the counsel and suggestions of the British

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British Government after discussion and explanation, or that I should act contrary thereto? At every time and every moment, I have acted, and continue to act, in conformity to the counsel and advice of the British Government and the Resident; but, with respect to a matter of business, the accomplishment of which does not appear to me to be practicable, and on which for my proper understanding of it discussions take place, your Lordship will yourself be pleased to judge how my judgment can be satisfied with respect to it, or the accomplishment of it can be contemplated.

With respect to what your Lordship has written on the subject of my exerting my authority to restrain or punish my officers and Zemindars, who afford protection and assistance to robbers and marauders, and to withhold them from the exaction of duties on merchandize in boats passing up and down, in violation of treaty, I assure your Lordship, that conformably to your wishes I have always been, and continue to be, ready and disposed to adopt measures for that purpose; nor have I ever been neglectful or remiss in that respect. Accordingly, the seizure of the marauder, Budjha Sing, has always been, and is an object of my attention. If a copy of the letter from Major Baillie to my address, dated the 14th of Rubbee-oos-sanee 1227 (27th April 1812, A.D.), in reply to my letter of the preceding day, in which Major Baillie expresses his approbation of the measures pursued by me in this affair and his intention of transmitting it to your Lordship, that you might be apprized of the care and pains which I had taken to effect the seizure of the marauder in question, had been received by your Lordship before the despatch of your Lordship's letter, I am satisfied that you would not have had to express your regret and concern with respect to this point. The most positive orders and injunctions are at all times issued by me to the Aumils on this subject; and what power have my Aumils and Zemindars to act contrary to my orders, and to aid and assist robbers and marauders? As it is not the practice of robbers and marauders, with reference to their own evil deeds, to fix their residence permanently in any one place, their detection and seizure must be attended with extreme trouble and difficulty. Thus, on the 6th of April last, Captain Macpherson proceeded with a detachment of British troops, with the utmost secrecy and caution, to the village of Jheona, in my dominions, and surrounded it; but after great and diligent search after Budjha Sing, was unable to find him. On the 4th of Jemadec-oos-sanee (14th June 1812, A.D.), several English officers stationed at Bheclaghaut set out with a body of horse and telingas (infantry) to surprise a band of robbers at Mulpoor, near Unree, a dependency of Pertaubghur, when after long and diligent search they succeeded in apprehending only one person, named Sheo Dut: none of the other robbers and marauders could be found. Adverting, therefore, to the nature and habits of those who lead a predatory life, I am persuaded that your Lordship will not impute the want of success in apprehending and punishing them to any deficiency of exertion or zeal on the part of the Aumils. Your Lordship will also be pleased to reflect, that disaffected persons and others, who have left my territories and taken up their residence within the Company's dominions, from whence, when opportunity offers, they make incursions into my country for the purpose of plunder, escape being apprehended and punished, notwithstanding the orders of the Resident, and the most active exertions of the Magistrates of the districts. With regard to the exaction of duties on merchandize, I have at all times prohibited, and continue to prohibit such practices; and your Lordship will be apprized, by the Resident's communication, of the measures which I have lately adopted for that purpose.

On the subject of the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, son of Hyder Beg Khan, your Lordship has written that you have little to add to the just and forcible observations contained in the Vice-President's letter to my address of the 12th July 1811. The state of the case is this: His Excellency the Vice-President wrote to me on the subject of compelling Akbur Alee Khan to make over to his brother, Hoosein Alee Khan, his just share of their family property, and of restoring a certain allowance for the support of the latter. I have no knowledge whatever of the grant of the allowance alluded to, or of the correspondence of that period. At a former time, when Hoosein Alee Khan rented from my Government the lands of Sundeela and Mulleehabad, on his being turned out of those lands he paid the balances due to my Government, partly by borrowing money

money from the late Almas Alee Khan, and partly by raising it in whatever manner he could; but he never stated any claim of right to an allowance, nor did his elder brother, Akbur Alee Khan, make any claim. When the late Colonel Scott was Resident at my Court, no mention was ever made of the allowance alluded to; and at the time of Lord Teignmouth's visit to Lucknow, when the treaty was concluded between the two Governments, on which occasion the stipends of many persons were confirmed, and of some augmented, and all points of business were settled and adjusted, I heard nothing of the allowance in question. In like manner, not a word was said about it in Lord Wellesley's time, and no mention was made of it during the negotiation of the treaty. On various occasions I have accommodated Hoosein Alee Khan with loans of money on his application for that purpose; sometimes of my own accord, at other times at the instance of the Resident; but if the Khan had had any knowledge of the provision in question, he would have made an application to me for its restoration. I must be excused, therefore, in not having granted that allowance. With respect to giving Hoosein Alee Khan his share of the family property, his brother, Akbur Alee Khan, is still confined under a guard of British Troops, and Hoosein Alee Khan may take it from his brother in whatever manner he can; or let him point out where his father's property is, that it may be given to him. The Resident having some time since repeatedly requested my permission for Hoosein Alee Khan's taking possession of some gardens and houses belonging to his late father, Hyder Beg Khan, I signified my consent, and the Khan is accordingly bent on digging and selling them, without fixing or specifying what his share is. As I am ready and willing to adopt any measures by which Hoosein Alee Khan may obtain his just share of the property, whatever your Lordship shall be pleased to dictate with respect to causing Akbur Alee Khan to give up his brother's share, I will act accordingly. As I swerve not from the path of compliance with your Lordship's wishes, if besides this there be any thing else which your Lordship is desirous of being done for Hoosein Alee Khan, I am ready to do it to the extent of my ability.

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As my ease, comfort, security, tranquillity, my power and authority in the regulation and administration of the affairs of my country, and the welfare and prosperity of my Government all depend on the favour and kindness of your Lordship, I entertain a confident persuasion, that by your kind care and attention the foundations of my Government will daily be more and more strengthened and consolidated. The execution and accomplishment of all matters connected with my Government, the interests of which are identified with those of the British Government, entirely depend on the favour and regard with which your Lordship may be pleased to consider them. If your Lordship will be graciously pleased to consider me to be entirely at your disposal, and, abstaining from all discussions, will kindly devote your time and attention to the promotion of my dignity and authority, all points will be happily arranged and accomplished. The sole wish of my heart is, that being enabled by your Lordship's kindness and favour to pass the few days which may remain to me of this precarious existence in the possession of honour, dignity, authority, and affluence, I may employ myself in expressing my sense of gratitude and obligation to your Lordship; for in this transitory world I have no kind friend or protector to succour and assist me, save yourself. But should any question be agitated, God forbid that I should think it proper to dispute a single point of what your Lordship may propose; nor will I ever do so. My hope and expectations are, that your Lordship, in the spirit of sincere and cordial friendship and affection, will watch over my interests at all times, and never for a moment be neglectful of them.

May the days of your Lordship's prosperity and happiness be perpetual.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

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2 July 1813.

Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

From Her Highness the Bhow Begum. (Received the 18th September 1812.)

The charge of the khoord muhl of the late Nawaub, Shuja-ood-Dowlah, has long been attached to my household, in conformity to the treaty under the signature of the late Governor-General, Sir John Shore, and the office of Nazir to that muhl was held on my part by Tuhseen Alee Khan. The persons composing the muhl, having lately become hostile to Tuhseen Alee Khan and having suspended his duty, made an application to his Excellency the Vizier for another Nazir. His Excellency accordingly sent an eunuch, called Nusseem, to undertake that duty; but as I did not approve of his nomination, I requested that he might be removed. With this request his Excellency ostensibly complied, while in his heart he was meditating a design of a different nature. Nusseem having been removed, Mohummud Nukhut, an eunuch, was appointed by me to act as deputy on the part of Mohummud Tuhseen, to superintend the muhl and to distribute the stipends. The ladies of the muhl, instigated by the sons of the late Nawaub, Shuja-ood-Dowlah, who are the children of these women (many of them residing with their mothers in the muhl, and several of them at Lucknow), and acting with the secret concurrence and by the suggestion of his Excellency, refused to accept their stipends from Tuhseen Alee Khan, or to acknowledge him as Nazir, without any fault on his part or that of his deputy, and for several days excited clamour and disturbance. On that occasion I addressed a letter to the Resident, and requested that he would procure letters to be written by his Excellency, one to the ladies of the muhl for the purpose of composing the disturbances, and of inducing them to submit to the authority of my people in the management of the affairs of the muhl, and one to my address on the same subject. The Resident communicated my letter to his Excellency, but every argument was ineffectual, and his Excellency openly disregarded what I had written: and according to what he had in view, all the persons composing the muhl, male and female, raising a great clamour and disturbance, suddenly came out of the muhl and proceeded to Lucknow. This occurrence has given me much pain. As the English gentlemen, and more especially your Lordship, are at all times cordially disposed to promote the interest and welfare of this Government, I now request that your Lordship will be pleased to issue instructions on the subject to Major Baillie, directing him to remonstrate with his Excellency, and, procuring the removal of all the evil advisers and instigators of these disturbances, to restore order in a suitable manner in the affairs of the muhl, and to continue Tuhseen Alee Khan in the office of Nazir, as he is an ancient servant of our house, and is fully acquainted with all the duties attached to that situation; for much danger to the interests of the muhl is to be apprehended, should a Nazir be nominated at the will of the Begums.

I trust that your Lordship will issue positive instructions on this point to Major Baillie, so that these disturbances may be settled and tranquillity be restored.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.
Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of those portions of my despatch of the 31st ultimo, which have reference to the disorderly conduct of the ladies of the khoord muhl of Fyzabad, instigated and encouraged unquestionably by the proceedings of his Excellency the Vizier, it is now my duty to report to you, for the further information of the Government, that a considerable number of those ladies have actually arrived at Lucknow in a most disreputable and disorderly manner, and have taken up their residence in the Emambara.

2. I have, however, the best reason to believe, that many of those misguided women have already repented of their proceedings, and are disposed to open a negotiation with their ancient and faithful Nazir, Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan, for the purpose of submitting to his authority and returning peaceably to Fyzabad.

3. I

3. I have instructed Tuhseen Alee Khan to take every possible advantage of the disposition which has thus been evinced on the part of these ladies ; and though the result of their negotiation with Tuhseen, on their future conduct, in any respect, be of no other importance in my mind, than as it may reflect additional dishonour on themselves and their advisers, or tend to the recovery in some degree, of the character which they have lost, I deem it to be highly probable that I shall soon have the satisfaction of reporting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, their peaceable return to Fyzabad, and submission to the authority of the Nazir.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
3d September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 1st instant, having reference to the departure of her Highness the younger Begum from Lucknow, I transmit to you, for the notice of the Government, the enclosed translations of letters which have since passed between her Highness and me. A translation of the Vizier's letter to her Highness, which is frequently referred to in these documents, is also transmitted by this despatch.

2. It has occurred to me to suggest for consideration, the possibility of the success of a negotiation with his Excellency the Vizier and with the Begum, for her Highness's permanent residence in her jagier, under arrangements for her security and comfort, to be made at the charge of this Government ; and if the measure of her Highness's future residence in any part of the Vizier's dominions be deemed preferable to her receiving an asylum within the Honourable Company's territory, it might be advisable that this measure be proposed to the Begum by the Right Honourable the Governor-General directly, in his Lordship's answer to the letter which her Highness is now framing to his address.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa. (Written the 1st
September 1812.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The manner and contents of the Vizier's letter to your Highness, which I transmitted by a confidential messenger last night, were such, notwithstanding his Excellency's delay in thus addressing your Highness, as when combined with the unequivocal assurances of friendship and support which were conveyed to you by me, seemed to my own judgment to constitute a solid ground for the request which my messenger was instructed to submit to you, namely, that of your suspending your departure for a few days at the least, and maturely deliberating on the contents of his Excellency the Vizier's letter.

Your Highness was accordingly pleased to express your compliance with my request, and to promise remaining until Thursday ; and having never hitherto had the smallest reason to doubt your Highness's good faith or sincerity, I relied with confidence on your promise, and was preparing to address you in writing on the subject of your brother's assurances in his letter of last night, when, to my infinite concern and surprise, your Vakeel announced your departure this morning to Pertaubgunge, in disregard or forgetfulness of your promise.

If your Highness were not fully convinced of the sincerity of my uniform professions of attachment and regard ; if you had not constantly expressed your implicit reliance on my friendship ; if your Highness had not had reason to be convinced that my object was less to detain you in Lucknow than to provide for your happiness and comfort, wherever your future residence might be fixed, I might have conjectured some reasonable pretext for this hasty and injudicious proceeding.

But

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

But I will not presume to insinuate a reproach, in the present justly irritated state of your Highness's mind, which I deplore with every sentiment and feeling that the most cordial friendship can excite.

That your brother, his Excellency the Vizier, sincerely repents of his former conduct towards you, that he laments your departure from his capital and is firmly resolved to promote your comfort in future, seems to me to be a reasonable inference from the tenor of his letter to your address. I have already, in person, conveyed to you the nature of his assurances to me, and I have, in a manner, become bound to your Highness for his Excellency's fulfilment of those assurances.

If your Highness will be graciously pleased to consider these assurances for the future as some degree of atonement for the past, to bury the past in oblivion, and to return to your palace in Lucknow, it will afford me the most genuine satisfaction to attend on your Highness at Pertaubgunge, to renew and confirm those assurances in person, and to conduct you, with every mark of respect for your high rank, to Lucknow, where your Highness may with confidence expect every possible degree of comfort and happiness during the remainder of your valuable life, which I pray to Almighty God to prolong.

But if my earnest and repeated entreaty on this point be unavailing, and no circumstances will induce your highness to resume your residence in Lucknow, I must, in this case, remind you of your solemn and positive promise to remain for a time in your jagier, till I receive and communicate to your Highness the answer to my reference to the Government; and further, I must caution your Highness against the inevitably disagreeable consequences of any future injudicious haste. A precipitate retreat from the jagier, like your Highness's departure of this morning, would unquestionably be highly displeasing to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, who, like me, has your Highness's prosperity and happiness at heart.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa. (Written the 2d September 1812.)

I cannot express to your Highness the extent of the uneasiness and concern which I feel, by reason of your departure from this city to encounter all the inconveniences of a journey, under circumstances of inadequate preparation, while your quitting your country and home, under any circumstances whatever, would necessarily fill me with apprehension. I am naturally still more alarmed, on learning the inadequate number of the party who have accompanied your Highness on this journey for the protection of your person and property. As a consideration for your Highness's dignity, and the security of your person and property, have ever been matters of interest to the British Government, and particularly to me, I have deemed it proper to appoint a company of Sepoys, under the command of a British officer, to attend your Highness as an honorary guard, during the period of your absence from the capital.

Your Highness will be pleased to give directions to some of the servants of your household to choose a proper place for the officer and company to encamp on, and to conduct them to it on the officer's approach.

In pursuance of the intentions which I expressed to you in person, I yesterday communicated to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in such terms as your Highness must approve, the intelligence of your departure from this city with a design to take up your residence within the territory of the Honourable Company; and I entertain hopes that, in the course of twenty or thirty days, I shall receive a decisive answer on the subject. Until the expiration of that period, I trust, whatever may happen, that your Highness will continue to reside in your jagier, in expectation of an answer from the Government. This advice is dictated, you may be sure, by a cordial desire for your advantage, and
I beg

I beg that your Highness will conform to it. I shall await with anxiety the receipt of your reply to this, as well as to my former letter, in order that the officer and company may march from hence to Pertaubgunge.

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A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From her Highness the younger Begum. (Received the 28th Shabaun 1227, 4th September 1812.)

Letter
from the Begum.

I have received your two letters of the 23d instant, one brought to me by a Chobdar, the other by a Shooter Suwar, and understood all the particulars which they convey.

I acknowledge the justness of your observation, in taxing me with a breach of my word and expressing your surprise on the occasion. The sorrow which I myself feel in consequence of this breach of my promise (a thing which never happened to me before) is not to be eradicated from my breast. But, under the influence of vexation and despair, what could I do? Immediately on receiving the letter from my brother, the fear of his approach and conversation set fire to the fuel of patience; and however sincerely desirous I was, and am, to evince my compliance with any suggestion of yours, which in no instance whatever I have hitherto disregarded, yet, by his tyranny and oppression, being reduced to the last extremity of forbearance, when human nature could endure no more, and it became impossible, under the disgrace I suffered, to prolong existence in this seat of tyranny, I lost all command of myself; and when, with the view to save appearances, by attending to the message which you communicated to me through Moonshee Ameer Hyder, I proposed putting off for a day or two (until Thursday) my departure, the agitation of my heart, like the convulsions attending the separation of soul and body, was incapable of control; and it is my firm persuasion, that if I had not then left Lucknow, the bird of immortality would have escaped from the cage of existence. Under these circumstances, I trust, my conduct will stand excused. If you reflect on the many atrocious and undisguised acts of tyranny and oppression committed against me by my brother himself, and by his unworthy servants under the sanction of his authority, as they have been repeatedly represented to you and to your predecessors in office, and applying them to yourself, consider the case with impartiality, you will confess that I have borne them with every possible degree of patience, and that if you had yourself felt but a portion of my sufferings, you would have at once broken the bonds of restraint, and have obeyed the first impulse of your feelings. In this state of mind, you will admit that the tendency of my brother's remark to me, that he is ignorant of the cause of my distress, is to renew my pain by throwing salt on the old wound. The inferior rank of others is no concern of mine, neither do I wish to impose notions of my own consequence on any one, but the sharp pointed steel of his pen has inflicted a still deeper wound in his remark, that his grief at my departure is occasioned chiefly by the distress to which it will expose my person, and the scandal it may create among those who are ignorant of the true state of circumstances; for which reason he advises me to drop my intention, and to accept of his future services. The degree of my brother's discernment is perhaps exalted beyond the capacity of ordinary minds, and he thus found out the true cause of my vexation and desire to depart, to be no more than the melancholy and morbid state of my mind, or perhaps something much worse and more disgraceful to my reputation. To inform the ignorant of the real state of circumstances, has therefore become incumbent on me; and with regard to his promises of future service, their nature is clearly proved by the experience of past events, which are known to all. During his residence at Benares, the arzees he addressed to me, containing offers and promises of services, are still in my possession. The fulfilment of those offers and promises has already satiated me with life; what more can remain to be done by him? But even this insincere offer, you may be assured, has been made only at your desire; for, of himself, he could never be disposed to drop the former domineering tone of authority. Although the pains inflicted by the oppressions of my brother have long been

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—
Letter
from the Begum.

insupportable, yet God is my witness, that I have never mentioned them to you without pain, lest the knowledge of them should give you uneasiness; it being the necessary effect of reciprocal friendship to create participation in the sufferings of a friend; and my repeated experience of your zealous representations in my behalf, founded on the consideration due to my rank, and to the friendship subsisting between the late Vizier and the British Government, left me no room to doubt of your friendship. But it was evident that you had no power to accomplish any thing in my behalf, and that sympathy and the dictates of a feeling heart were all that you could oppose to the cruel tyranny of my brother. Yet your sympathy is, perhaps, the only cause under God which has preserved me from the guilt of suicide; and my obligations to you, on this account alone, are such as I can never repay. The proper return to you, on my part, for all your kind concern about me, was certainly that you should derive pleasure from my communications, instead of my proving always the source of trouble to you by the relations of my distress. I feel, on this account, the deepest regret. It was never certainly my wish to cause the least uneasiness to you, who have shewn such respect for my rank and my feelings; but my conduct has been influenced exclusively by the tyranny which I have experienced from my brother, and on this ground I claim your forgiveness. One other request and I have done. The compassion which you feel for me demands that you desist from urging a dying person, as I am, on the subject of a return to Lucknow, and that you consider the bare mention of my return, like the relapse of a mortal disease, to be the signal of immediate destruction. I purpose shortly, please God, after recovering a little from the pressure of the afflictions by which I am attacked, to write an account of my condition to the Right Honourable the Governor-General; firmly hoping that as his Lordship is informed of the real state of circumstances, both from your communication and my own former letters, he will consider the oppressions I suffer with all the favour due to the former friendship of the late Vizier, and to the exalted rank of the blessed martyr, my father, the Nawaub Vizier Eatomad-ood-Dowlah Kummer-ood-Deen Khan, and rescue me from further disgrace. From the wisdom and justice of the English, by which they are distinguished by heaven, and from his Lordship, renowned for every human excellence as well as for exalted rank and station, I shall expect with confidence a favourable answer to my letter, and that his Lordship, well aware that to express a wish for my return to the city must be the same as his pronouncing my death, will abstain from any mention of it in his letter. I accede, however, to your desire of my remaining where I am for twenty or thirty days, and beg you will not entertain the least doubt of my adhering to my word. If, agreeably to my hopes, within the period here mentioned I should experience the kind protection of your Government, it will be consonant to its wisdom and justice, otherwise, "When the soul, unconscious of guilt, is prepared for eternity, it is of no consequence whether it meet death on a throne or on the ground."

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Begum.

From Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa. (Received the 5th September 1812.)

I have had the pleasure of receiving your friendly letter, expressing the concern which you felt at my departure, and informing me that you had appointed a company of Sepoys, under the command of an English officer, as a guard for my protection. This communication imparted vigour to both my body and mind. The anxiety and regret which you tell me you felt in consequence of my departure from the city prove the excess of your friendship. It is natural that the sentiments of friendship in the minds of the worthy and benevolent, should at first sight, and until the circumstances be maturely considered, create the anxiety which you describe; and as Almighty God has distinguished the English nation above all others by an abundant share of the qualities of virtue and benevolence, such feelings must be expected from them in a still more particular degree. The fatigues and distresses of the journey may be as great

great as you suppose; but when compared with the distresses I have suffered, from the oppression and the tyranny of my brother, they are no more than a grain of mustard-seed compared with the mountain of Alburz. From this, in fact, you may conceive what I have suffered, that I quit my native country and my home without any preparations for my comfort, and consider this banishment but light, when compared with the evils which I quit. But now, in a particular degree, when your kind assistance has provided me with the means of protection, as well as other proofs of your respect, my cares and apprehensions with regard to the journey are banished, nor can any thing further occur to distress or to irritate my mind. Be assured that wherever I go, my mind and my tongue will be employed in contemplating and declaring your virtues, and the obligations which your friendship has imposed on me.

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Letter
from the Begum.

In my answer to your former letters I assured you of my compliance with your desire of remaining some time in the jagier. Receive the repetition of my assurance, that without your concurrence and advice, I shall not proceed any further.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier to Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon Nissa.
(Written the 31st August 1812.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have recently heard, with extreme grief and concern, that your Highness entertains the design of quitting this city. As your Highness is one of the heads of our family, and none of the heads of our family has ever hitherto formed such a design, I lament that your Highness should have formed such a resolution, and should expose yourself to the hardships of a journey.

It is obvious that, wherever you go, the governor and princes only of that country, to whom your elevated rank may be known, can treat you with the proper attention: whereas, in this country you are known to all, and every description of the people must respect you.

Your quitting this city is altogether improper and unbecoming. Such an occurrence has never happened before. Your Highness's residence here is an honour and an ornament to the city, as well as a source of pleasure and happiness to me. I am totally ignorant of the cause of your displeasure; and, at all events, your departure can tend to no other purpose than my grief and concern, from a contemplation of the distresses to which it must expose you, and the discredit which must be attached to it by those who are unacquainted with the circumstances of the case.

On all these grounds, I request your Highness to desist from this design, and to relinquish your hasty resolution. I am ready to serve you in every possible way; and if you agree to this proposal of mine, I shall attend you, and repeat those assurances in person. What can I say more?

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. His Excellency the Vizier has this instant transmitted to me a letter to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the subject of which is limited to the question of the superintendence of the Khoord Muhl, and the departure of her Highness, the younger Begum, from Lucknow. A separate reply to the other points of the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency, under date the 8th of May last, is promised, after a further discussion of those points between his Excellency and me.

2. The

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. The tenor of my letter to your address, under date the 31st ultimo, appears to my own judgment to supersede the necessity for any remarks on the statements or documents which are conveyed by the Vizier in his letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

3. With a reference to the recent clamour and disorderly conduct of the ladies of the Khoord Muhl, his Excellency's statements and the letters of those ladies, containing complaints against Tuhseen Alee Khan, are so entirely and so satisfactorily refuted by the nature of the clamour itself, and the character of Tuhseen, in the first place, by his Excellency's former letter to the ladies in answer to their complaints against the Nazir, and by the uniform conduct and written declarations of those ladies themselves, with regard to Tuhseen Alee Khan, (until instigated to their present proceedings by his Excellency's secret advice,) as well as further by the daily reports of my news-writer at Fyzabad, and by the remonstrances of her Highness the Bhow Begum, that it seems to me to be a waste of time to enlarge on the manifest inaccuracy and perverseness of the facts and arguments, by which his Excellency would still attempt to evade the provisions of his obligation to the Begum, under the Honourable Company's guarantee.

4. I transmit copies and translations of three letters from the principal ladies of the muhi, and bearing the seals of a still greater number of them, which were written to Tuhseen Alee Khan a few months before his supersession, and have been submitted by me to the Vizier, in the hope of convincing his Excellency of the absurdity of any attempt to represent the present clamours of these ladies as the dictates of their own free will. In addition to those documents, I shall transmit to the Persian Department a number of reports from my news-writer at Fyzabad, and other original documents in Persian, which it is impossible now to translate with the view of their forming numbers of this despatch.

5. It is worthy of particular remark, that the character and conduct of those women of the khoord muhi, who are the chief instigators of the others in their present disorderly proceedings, have ever been disreputable in the extreme; that they have frequently, on former occasions, during the government of the late Nawaub, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and since his Excellency the present Vizier's accession to the musnud, been known to quit their habitations without any adequate cause; and that their disgraceful conduct on this occasion is different from their former practices, merely in as far as it has been produced and encouraged by the Vizier's advice and support, which are now no longer a secret, the whole of their letters and complaints being known to be drafted in his presence, or by persons appointed by his Excellency for the purpose of guiding their proceedings. A number of the most respectable women of the muhi, who are still residing at Fyzabad in submission to the will of the Begum, are perfectly satisfied with the reinstatement of their ancient and faithful Nazir.

6. With regard to the remaining complaints which are stated in his Excellency's letter against her Highness the Bhow Begum (a number of those in his former letter have been withdrawn), the only one which seems worthy of notice is that of her Highness's declining to come forward with pecuniary aid to his Excellency, at the time of Lord Wellesley's visit to Lucknow. It does not appear from my records, nor from any information before me, that a request of pecuniary aid from her Highness was ever made by the Vizier; but, at all events, it seems a singular instance of her Highness's breach of the obligation referred to by his Excellency, which is evidently an obligation on his own part alone, and involves no specific stipulation on the part of the Begum, that her Highness should have refused to supply his Excellency with money under any emergency whatever.

7. With a reference to his Excellency's complaints against her Highness the younger Begum, impartial justice compels me to declare that they are, for the most part, totally groundless, as has been established beyond a doubt, in documents already before the Government, or forming a part of the records of my office, which it appeared to me to be superfluous to translate.

8. The Begum did certainly, on one occasion, authorize her servants to take possession of a very small portion of the vacant and ruinous buildings adjacent to

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to her residence, with the view chiefly of repairing them to prevent accidents to her servants, and eventually of converting them to the increase of her own inadequate accommodation. The Vizier objected to and opposed this trifling encroachment in a harsh and ungenerous manner, and her Highness relinquished it by my advice. The opportunity of inspecting her Highness's habitation afforded to me at my recent visit, was sufficient to prove to me its total inadequacy to her comfort, and the illiberality, in this respect, of his Excellency's conduct towards her Highness.

9. Her Highness's purchase or forcible possession of land, or other property, without paying the full price of it, is an accusation the most erroneous and perverse. Her Highness was in terms of purchase of a small spot of ground contiguous to her residence, on the bank of the Goomtie, with the view of building a house on it. The Zemindar or proprietor (nominally in this country) of the ground had agreed to sell it to her Highness for a moderate sum, and the Vizier, or his servants by his orders, prevented the conclusion of the bargain, and instigated a false complaint on the part of the Zemindar, who refused ultimately to part with his ground, and her Highness relinquished her intention.

10. Of a similar nature is the complaint of her detaining the child of a Syyed by force as a slave, in opposition to the will of its parents. A long correspondence on this subject took place between his Excellency the Vizier, her Highness the Begum, and me, which is referred to in one or two, if I mistake not, of my former despatches to your address.

11. In the progress of this correspondence it was proved, that her Highness (as is the universal custom of this country) observing accidentally a helpless female infant, the offspring of indigent parents, who possessed not the means of its support, had adopted the child as her own, had entertained the mother as a servant to nurse it, and had given a sum of money to the father for his support; that the child grew up under the Begum's care, was treated with maternal kindness, and repaid that kindness in such a manner as to create maternal affection in the heart of the Begum, who had ultimately resolved to bestow the young woman in marriage on some deserving dependant of her own. The father, a worthless person, taking advantage of her Highness's growing fondness for his daughter, repeated and increased his pecuniary demands against the Begum, to a degree which excited her indignation, and he then complained to the Adawlut of the forcible detention of his daughter as a slave. This complaint, encouraged certainly, if not instigated by the Vizier, was referred to me by his Excellency, and by me submitted to the Begum for redress.

12. Her Highness, injudiciously, at first combined her right of purchase from the father (which, by the way, is universally recognized and admitted in this country) with the title of a parent by adoption proceeding on the father's consent; and this plea, when repeatedly opposed by the Vizier, I deemed it to be my duty to reject, and her Highness reluctantly abandoned it, in compliance with my decision. She further expressed her resolution to give up the child if I required it, declaring at the same time, that she considered the infant as her own, and that their separation would overwhelm her with grief. I now entreated his Excellency to accede to her Highness's wishes, and to admit of her compromising the complaint by satisfying the worthless father of her adoptive child or protégée.

13. In this manner above a year and a half ago I was enabled to settle, as I believed, to the satisfaction of all the parties, a most unpleasant and vexatious dispute, which forms the subject of the principal complaint that is now adduced by his Excellency against the unfortunate widow of his brother, the descendant of ancestors by far more illustrious than his own.

14. Any further comment on the tenor of his Excellency's letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General were manifestly an unprofitable encroachment on his Lordship's valuable time.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th September 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

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2 July 1813.

Letters from the
Ladies of the
Khoord Muhl.

From Doolhun Begum, and seven other Ladies of the Khoord Muhl to
Tuhseen Alee Khan. (No date.)

We have heard that Hoshmund Alee Khan, the faithless villain, is about to be appointed our darogha, which God forbid !

We were never happy under this person, and food and drink are unlawful to us since the intelligence of his appointment arrived : our lives and honour are at stake. When we refused to submit to the Begum we were perfectly satisfied with you, whom we consider as the light of our eyes ; our life and honour are still with you. If this intelligence, which God forbid, should be confirmed, we swear by the Holy Imams, that we will proceed bareheaded to Golab Baree (Shooja-ood-Dowlah's tomb), and that no consideration on earth, even a lac of rupees per mensem, will induce us to submit to such an arrangement. At your hands, and with you, beggary, nay starvation, will be agreeable to us. We will proceed with you to Kerbelaw. Reproach us not hereafter for what may happen. We have given you timely information : if you forsake us and relinquish your office, we will no longer retain our lives. Consider a little written on this subject as a great deal. In the time of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, when Hoshmund was our darogha, the Nawaub ordered twenty thousand rupees for us, and that villain appropriated the whole to himself. When we taxed him with this conduct he gave us his bond for the sum, and we hold his bond to this day : so great a thief is Hoshmund.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From the same to the same. (No date.)

At length we have received your letter and understood the whole of its contents. The intelligence of your returning health has delighted our hearts. May God preserve you a hundred and thirty years in health and happiness, for the sake of Mohummud and his posterity.

You write, that we know nothing of the Hindee calculation of time. That is very true ; but we know that our stipends were originally fixed on the 13th of the month of Mohurrum, and that this is the proper account. Our friend, you will take care that the account be fairly adjusted. You know better than we do. If you possessed the power, we are sensible that you would give each of us separately thousands of rupees, and that we should no longer be plagued by our creditors. God knows, and is our witness, that we love you more than our nearest relations. If we urge you on the subject of our claims and accounts, it is because all our dependence is on you, and to whom else could we apply ? But your pleasure is all that we wish for. We agree to take one month at your desire, notwithstanding the distress which it will occasion. On the 13th of Ramzaun four months were due to us, and the fifth is now in its progress ; we are, therefore, distressed beyond measure. Send in two months from Lucknow, and order a month to be paid to us here, to relieve us in some degree. Our friend, two circumstances distress us particularly : first, that in the time of the late Nawaub we received only five or six months in the year, and that now twelve months are paid to us, yet we suffer reproach from incumbrance in a greater degree than formerly ; secondly, that you should threaten to relinquish your office : let the pen of the writer never convey such a remark to us again. Inform us of the day of your bathing, that the vows which we have made may be performed. Send an answer to this letter immediately. If you give us up, then where are we, where this muhl, where the city of Fyzabad ? In such an event we must seek the plains of Kerbelaw ! Of this truth be assured.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

From Kummer-oon-Nissa Begum, and seven other Ladies of the Muhl,
to Tuhseen Alee Khan. (No date.)

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2 July 1813.

The intelligence of your having bathed on your recovery has been a cause of delight to our hearts. We had long by day and by night prostrated ourselves before God to solicit this blessing, that you might be preserved over our heads, whose honour and happiness depend on you.

Letter from the
Ladies of the
Khoord Muhl.

You complain that Behroze has been occupied for two months in explaining matters to us, and that we refused to receive his explanation: you have also written, that we seemed in secret to wish for your removal, and if so, that we should plainly speak out. This is all a mistake upon your part. While we live, we wish for no person but you, and can never consent to your removal: banish, therefore, this erroneous conception from your mind. Do with us whatever you please; send us only three months allowance on the expiration of the month of Ramzaun. We never complained of your deducting one or two months from our allowance; we stated merely, that the intercalary month had been stopped, and that thus, in three years, a month's allowance had been lost to us. May God preserve his Excellency and you. We trust that hereafter we shall receive sicca rupees, and be indebted for this addition to your kindness. We say nothing for the present year; but next year it is our intention to insist on the payment of our allowance in siccas, and of this we inform you beforehand.

It seems that you have written to Doolhun Begum to explain all matters to us, and to endeavour to satisfy our minds. To what purpose was this? Is she greater than we are, that we should attend to her explanations? If we be satisfied, we must be satisfied by you; if dissatisfied, to you express our dissatisfaction. We are all here on a level, and there is no one greater than another: of this truth be assured. Doolhun Begum is the daughter of Alee Beg; but who is she, that she should cause us to understand? This is all an erroneous conception. Our understandings are equal to hers, and we act from our own judgment, without reference to her or any other.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To John Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have the honour of transmitting to you a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which is referred to in my despatch of this date to the Chief Secretary to Government. A Persian copy of a letter which I deemed it to be my duty to address to his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of his letter to the Governor-General, and copies of several papers of intelligence and other documents having reference to the superintendence of the Khoord Muhl, (which it has been found impracticable to translate), are also transmitted by this despatch, with a view to convey the most ample and satisfactory information regarding every point that is stated in his Excellency's letter, without any unnecessary delay.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 20th September 1812.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

After expressing my desire for the pleasure of a personal meeting with your Lordship, which is the chief object of my wishes, I proceed to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of the 8th of May last, replete with sentiments of friendship and regard, the contents of which I have fully understood. Having written an answer to the points contained in your Lordship's letter, I sent my reply to Major Baillie, and after a discussion of some of its contents,
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it will shortly be transmitted to your Lordship. Some strange occurrences having lately taken place here, namely, the departure of the ladies of the muhls from Fyzabad, and their arrival at Lucknow in a state of the utmost wretchedness, distraction, and misery, the departure of her Highness the Bhabee Begum (Shums-oon-Nissa) in the most ungracious manner from this city towards her own jagier, and her ordering her Khassburdars and other attendants to march with their matchlocks lighted, and ready to fire at any one who should offer to stop them, I consider it to be my duty to state the real circumstances for your Lordship's information. The affair of the ladies of the muhls is this: Some time ago letters having been repeatedly addressed to me by these ladies, and they having come out of their muhls and excited clamour and disturbance, and it appearing certain to me from the contents of their letters that they were in the highest degree dissatisfied with Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan, and that they would shortly proceed to bring dishonour and disgrace upon themselves, I repeatedly called upon Tuhseen Alee Khan to propose some measure which would have the effect of composing those clamours and disturbances. The Khan proposed nothing but measures of severity and menaces, such as I could not employ, and which would have been injurious to my reputation, and would have provoked the Begums to put an end to their lives. I saw no other expedient but that of appointing some other person as Nazir in the room of Tuhseen Alee Khan. Being thus without remedy, I nominated Mohummud Nusseem Alee Khan, on the recommendation of Afreen Alee Khan, and that person accordingly proceeded thither, and pacified and appeased all the ladies of the muhls; and all these ladies, well-pleased, returned into the muhls, and desisted from further clamour and disturbance. In the interval, Major Baillie made a representation to me, for the purpose of restoring Tuhseen Alee Khan to the office of Nazir. I replied that I was ready to restore him, but that the Khan must first propose a plan which should have the effect of putting an end to the clamours and disturbances of the Begums, and of inducing them not to come out of the muhls, a proceeding which would be attended with dishonour and disgrace. Major Baillie spoke to the Khan: the Khan did not suggest any plan. On this account I was deliberating about his re-appointment, when your Lordship's letter arrived. Major Baillie took that opportunity to make a second representation to me on the subject of restoring the Khan to the office of Nazir and giving him an honorary dress. I sent an honorary dress to the Khan, and gave him in charge a letter to the ladies of the muhls. The Khan gave the honorary dress to Nukhut, Khaujeh Sera (eunuch), and deputed him to Fyzabad. The ladies of the muhls, immediately on hearing the intelligence of Nukhut's receiving an honorary dress, came out of the muhls and raised a greater clamour and disturbance than before. Afterwards letters were brought to me from those ladies, stating the circumstances of their distress and the hardships and misery of their situation, and complaining of Nukhut, the deputy of Tuhseen Alee Khan. Out of a regard to the representations of Major Baillie I returned no answer, and many of their letters which came to me I sent to him. When no attention was paid by any one to their situation, the ladies of the muhls, submitting to undergo the fatigue and difficulties of travelling, some on foot, and some in carriages of various descriptions, came to Lucknow in a miserable and wretched plight, without tents or awnings. The enclosed copies of eight letters from them, and of a statement transmitted to me by my brother, Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan, who accompanied them on their journey from Fyzabad, will afford your Lordship detailed information respecting their situation. Disgrace and dishonour, such as never before sullied our reputation, have now been brought on my house, and the circumstances have become notorious to all the world. In requiring the Khan to propose a plan to me, as before alluded to, the sole object, which from the first I had in view, was to prevent the disgrace and degradation which have now occurred, and which will continue to take place. Had the Khan thought of a plan, this misfortune and disgrace would not have come to pass.

With reference to what your Lordship has written on the subject of the engagement concluded between her Highness the Lady-mother (Bhow Begum) and me, in the month of February 1798, according to my promise, I have never been guilty of any remissness or neglect in shewing her every degree of respect
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and attention, and in doing every thing to promote her convenience and comfort: but, on the part of the Begum, the reverse of what is contained in the engagement, viz., that, whenever requisite, she will afford me every degree of friendship and assistance in my affairs, has taken place; for on the occasion of Marquess Wellesley's coming to Lucknow, it having become necessary for me to pay a sum of money into the Company's treasury, her Highness did not afford me any assistance whatever. As by the engagement abovementioned, the British Government is the guarantee of all the affairs of the Begum, it becomes incumbent on it to devise means that the Begum may pay to me such a sum of money as may afford me assistance; and that in future, whenever it may be requisite, she may manifest her friendship and afford me assistance.

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With reference to what your Lordship has written, "whether the appointment of a person of my own selection to collect the revenue of the jaidad and dis-tribute it to the ladies of the muhl," and so forth, I have to inform your Lordship, I never appointed a person to collect the revenues of the jaidad. I have not removed the person who is appointed on the part of the Begum to receive the revenues of the jaidad. The fact is this: The Begum received the revenues of the jaidad by the hands of an officer (Aumil) of her own nomination, and sent the amount of the stipends through Tuhseen Alee Khan, who on my part held the office of Nazir of the deorhees; when the distribution of the stipends was made, and every matter of business, great or small, relating to the deorhees, which arose, was submitted by the Khan to me, and executed by him according to my orders. Your Lordship will be kindly pleased to ascertain, that her Highness had no right of interference in the distribution of the stipends of the muhls, or in their reduction or augmentation, or in any other matters connected with the deorhees, and that she never exercised any superintendence over the affairs of the Khoord Muhl. The receipts of the ladies of the muhl were always brought; and if any of the persons in the muhls died, the charge of the funeral ceremonies devolved upon me. Had the ladies of the muhl understood that the Begum was vested with the superintendence of the affairs of the muhl, they would never have agreed to it. This is evident from the clamour and disturbance and other proceedings which have now taken place. With respect to what is contained in the engagement, that the stipends of the muhls shall be paid by the hands of the Begum, it does not appear to me that, by that stipulation, the ladies of the muhls shall be subject to the authority of the Begum. Your Lordship will be pleased to judge whether or not I am the master (*wauris*) of the ladies of the muhl; whether or not the management of the muhls is a part of my household concerns; whether or not the honour of the ladies of the muhl is identified with my honour; whether or not, by the treaty, I ought to have a control over my household concerns, and whether it be proper or becoming in me to acquiesce in the dishonour and disgrace of those ladies.

With regard to what your Lordship has written respecting the severe distress and vexation experienced by her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and that "you have received copies of the letter which the Resident addressed to me on that subject, under date the 1st of April, and of the letter from her Highness to the Resident to which it refers," and that your Lordship "concurs entirely in the sentiments expressed in the Resident's letter," and that your Lordship has "directed the Resident to make an application to me on this subject, and to request that I would redress the grievances of which the Begum has reason to complain," the case is this: I am ready to redress any grievance of which the Begum can justly complain, and at no time have I ever concurred in or permitted any molestation or cause of grievance to her Highness, nor has ever such a thought entered, or can it enter into my mind. On the other hand, however, several petty acts on the part of the Begum have occurred, which are a cause of grievance and distress to some poor people, and a source of vexation to me; such, for example, as taking the property of another and not paying the price of it, or occupying a piece of ground without the consent of the owner; nay, she even detained in her muhl the daughter of a poor injured Syeed; and when the father complained, she said that she had purchased the girl, nor would she attend to the representation of the Resident in his behalf. Your Lordship will be pleased

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to determine whether the sale of a Mussulman is permitted by the Mohomedan law. Her Highness has also possessed herself of several places belonging to me. Be pleased to weigh this well, whether any one takes possession of the property of another without the consent of the proprietor. This also I overlooked. Her Highness, moreover, has entirely given up the observance of those appearances and external forms, which are suitable to the relation in which we stand to each other of brother and sister; and when she is expostulated with on such points, she prepares to leave the city, and she frequently remarks, how can she remain a subject in a place where she possessed the rule. And with respect to settling the affairs of her jagier, on which she has spoken to me, if any difficulty is made about sending my people there, she makes it a subject of complaint; and if my people are sent, she accuses them of plunder. At the time when the Resident spoke to me on the subject of settling the business of the bazar attached to her deorhee, and of making an allowance in money in place of the khassa (virtuals) which are furnished to her Highness from my household, I replied, "let her" "Highness observe the forms of respect which are due to my rank as sovereign, "and the obligations of fraternal affection, and on my part, to the extent of my "ability, there shall be no failure in the manifestation of my duty towards her, "as one of the heads of the family, or in the cultivation of her good will." Major Baillie asked me if what he should submit to my consideration in this affair would be agreeable to me. I replied, "certainly." At length it was settled, that Major Baillie should repair in person to her Highness's deorhee, and reason and expostulate with her. A reconciliation rested accordingly on the success of the Resident's expostulation. In the end, however, the Resident did not repair in person to the Begum. Your Lordship will be pleased to deliberate maturely, whether any or what improper request has been made by me, and what cause of grievance to her Highness has arisen on my part. Her Highness will not consent to a reconciliation; nay, she declares that she has made a solemn vow to heaven never to see such a one's face, meaning me. Your Lordship will be pleased to judge whether it is her Highness who does not listen to the representation of the Resident, or whether it is I. It is my wish that her Highness should, in all matters, pay regard to what is due to me, as the sovereign and as a brother, and that I, on my part, should promote her satisfaction and render her service. Notwithstanding so much consideration towards her Highness on my part, she formed the determination to quit this city; upon which I transmitted a letter to her, enclosed in one to the address of the Resident, and omitted no intreaties, arguments, or professions of consideration and regard for her, offering to wait upon her in person. Copies of my letters to her Highness and to Major Baillie, and of Major Baillie's reply, I have the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information. Her Highness, without paying any attention to my arguments and kind and conciliatory expressions, and without returning any answer to my letter, left Lucknow and proceeded to her jagier. A copy of the letter which she addressed to Major Baillie, under date the 28th Shabaun (4th September 1812), was transmitted by him to me, and I now enclose it for your Lordship's notice. Your Lordship will be pleased to observe in what terms of conciliation and regard I have addressed her Highness, and in what terms she has expressed herself of me to the Resident, paying no regard whatever either to my rank as the sovereign, or to the relation in which I stand to her as a brother. The same questions had been agitated between us from former times, but never did her Highness proceed to take the step she has now taken, nor has she once reflected on this, that the terms in which she has expressed herself of me will not be agreeable to the Resident, in consideration of the friendship and union which subsist between the Honourable Company and me.

May the days of your prosperity and happiness be perpetual.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Enclosures

Enclosures in the foregoing Letter from the Nawaub Vizier.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Doolhun Begum to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier.

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Enclosures
in Vizier's Letter.

It has been reported to me that your Excellency, from motives of regard for the reputation of Tuhseen Alee Khan and a desire to please him, does not intend to remove him from the office of Nazir. This is surprising. In all the world the honour and reputation of father and mother, and one's own, are dearer than those of any other person: how then can it be, that the reputation of a male or female slave should be of more value with your Excellency than ours? Woe is me, of this life, if this be the fact! Accursed be such a state of existence! When I and the other ladies of the muhl have been forsaken by your Excellency, and been exposed to be insulted by a slave of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, we ought to be ashamed to live longer in the world. Your Excellency knows well that we have no dispute but on one point, the Nazirship of Tuhseen Alee Khan, to which we do not consent. When your Excellency, who is our natural patron and protector and the defender of our rights, is not well disposed towards us, who is this Nazir? We know not what this vengeance from heaven is which has overtaken us. Till now we have considered that we lived on the bounty of your Excellency, but should the Nazir not be removed we shall certainly consider it to be the bounty of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and we wish not to live on the bounty of a perfidious slave, who every moment uses reproachful language towards us, and will not allow an account of our situation or our letters to reach your Excellency. A letter is half a personal meeting. If we cannot see your Excellency let our letters at least reach your presence; and when a letter comes from your Excellency, we can imagine ourselves to be sitting in your company. I have never set foot out of the muhl, and in the presence of Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan I have sworn to it by your Excellency's precious head. Of what use then would it be to come out of the muhl? It is better to die at once. I now also swear by your blessed head, that if the Nazir be not removed from his office I will take poison, and my life shall be your sacrifice. When honour is gone, of what worth is life? Further details of our situation will be made known to you by the letters of the Nawaub, Shums-ood-Dowlah. It is a duty incumbent on your Excellency to turn the eye of regard upon us, and to have compassion on our wretched condition. I shall hope to receive an answer to this letter. If one individual should perish it is of little consequence; but as I am in debt, I beg of your Excellency to take charge of my funeral, that my corpse may not remain unburied, which would excite the scorn of the people and add to my dishonour. What more can I write? It is probable that, from this cause, the measure of my days is now completed. May the Almighty preserve your Excellency for a hundred and forty years, for the sake of Mohummud and his posterity. Let the portion of my days be added to those of your Excellency; but on the day of judgment I will make this base-born villain understand. In this world, as his loins are broken, so in the next shall his neck be broken with the weight of our blood. On the day of resurrection I will mount upon his neck, and cry out under the canopy of heaven, "My blood is on the neck of Tuhseen." My words will not be in vain. In short, since the decease of the Nawaub Shuja-ood-Dowlah my life has been brought to an end by the indignities to which I have been exposed. It is better to die than to live. I beg your Excellency will favour me with an answer, and may the sun of your life continue to shine.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from the Ladies of the Muhl to the Nawaub, Shums-ood-Dowlah, Son of the Vizier.

It is generally rumoured here, that Tuhseen Alee Khan, the Pharaoh of the day, intends to come here (Fyzabad) after the mohurram; we therefore write to inform you, that we have given a written promise to his Excellency, the Vizier, that we will never set a foot beyond the door, nor indeed did we ever form any such intention. How much then have we been slandered by Tuhseen, who has told his Excellency that every moment we are ready to come out of the muhl. Perhaps he is now endeavouring to make his words true; for if he come here, and for the purpose of making us satisfied with him, we are not and never will be

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be satisfied with him, and we will make away with our own lives. We are unanimous in this affair. By a thousand arts, Juwahir Alee Khan, the former Nazir of her Highness the Bhow Begum's deorbee, sought to make us acquiesce in the authority of her Highness, but without effect. Now that we have fully understood Tuhseen Alee Khan, when will we ever agree to take our stipends from him? Let it not happen, therefore, that he come and make his arrangements here, so that our letters shall be prevented from reaching the Presence. Then, indeed, we shall be without remedy at his hands, and we will come out of the muhl and go to Gola Baree, or we will shut the doors and put ourselves to death. It is proper that you make a representation to his Excellency, that never, never, in any way whatever, will we take our stipends from Tuhseen Alee Khan. He has formed a wrong resolution in coming here, and he will only bring disgrace upon himself at our hands, or be the cause of our losing our honour and our lives. If each of us were to receive gold in place of silver from him, we would not take it. From the hands of his Excellency, who is our patron and master, we should be satisfied with a crust of bread. Further, accept our prayers for your welfare, and consider the little which we have written to imply a great deal.

Translation of a Copy of an Agreement executed among themselves by the Ladies of the Muhl.

(Text of the Coran.)

By the above sacred text we swear, that while life remains in our body, be we killed or be our heads severed from our necks, we never will be satisfied with Tuhseen, and we never will agree to his holding the office of Nazir. We will never betray or be false to each other: never, never, in any way, will we consent to Tuhseen Alee Khan's being Nazir. To this instrument, therefore, we set our seals. To whatever calamity may befall us, we submit; never will we shrink from it. But to Tuhseen's being Nazir, who is an oppressor and the enemy of our house, we will not assent. If we depart from this engagement, may we depart from God, and from the Prophet and the holy law.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Doolhun Begum to his Excellency the Vizier.

Your Excellency has well discharged the obligations of filial duty, in permitting such oppression to be exercised on us by Daraub, Tuhseen, Nukhut, Asghur Alee Khan, and the Begum, who is the ruler of Fyzabad (Bhow Begum), every one of whom uses every exertion to bring disgrace upon us and cause our death. The base-born villain Nukhut, Khaujeh Sera, has cast a thousand scandalous reflections on us. On Monday the 5th, a servant at three rupees per mensem died, when Begum Jaun, a dependent of Sahib Jee, asked Nukhut for the monthly pay of the deceased. We, all the ladies of the muhl, agreed, in jest, not to permit the corpse to be removed for interment. At length I paid the money out of my pocket, and caused the body to be interred. The Bhow Begum and Daraub told Nukhut not to go on such a day near to the muhl. That son of a strumpet, however, from a spirit of tyranny, sought to cause our destruction, and came to the door, when I and all the other ladies raised a cry of lamentation, and openly pouring out curses and imprecations on his head, we each seized a stick in our hand. Nukhut, standing at the door, called out to bring more sticks, and pile them at the door. Alas, that in your Excellency's life-time, Dalmeër, a misbegotten Peon, should say to us that he would beat us back into the house. Since our honour is come to this, why leave us in the muhl: better turn us out at once, or at one stroke separate our heads from our bodies. We never in our lives will agree to Tuhseen's being Nazir. Nay, should any one, two, or three of us be satisfied with that perfidious villain, the rest of us will put them to death. To-day I have sworn all the ladies of the muhl, high and low, on the Coran, and caused them to affix their seals to the engagement, that they will put themselves to death, and have sent it through Omrao Sing, the news-writer, with a letter from myself, and another under the seals of all the ladies, to be laid before your Excellency. I therefore

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therefore send Fuzl Alee to you, the servant of Mirza Akbur Alee. My people do not go out of the muhl: they are the prisoners of Nukhut and her Highness the Bhow Begum. You will observe by the solemn engagement which we have executed among ourselves, that we will give up our lives sooner than consent to have Muhummud Tuhseen as Nazir. What will your Excellency gain by our death? Such is our evil fortune that we cannot trust our own shadow. God knows whether the news-writer forwards our letters to your Excellency: nor do we know what crime we have committed that your Excellency should give us up to be put to death by these villains. If our food and raiment were a heavy expense we would not ask for them. Turn us out of doors. We do not know who the Begum is, that she should exercise such tyranny over us. In the life-time of her son, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, she never exercised authority over us, nor oppressed us. Who then is she, while your Excellency is preserved to us? For fifteen or sixteen years the Begum knew nothing of us, and never issued orders to our servants. Why does your Excellency wrongfully allow us to be dishonoured? If your Excellency has any discussions to hold with us, send for us to Lucknow, where you and Major Baillie and the Nazir (Tuhseen) are, and we will answer for ourselves. If you bear us enmity and wish to put us to death, do not delay, but give orders to separate our heads at once from our bodies. If we shrink from the stroke may the curse of God be upon us. Why do you permit the Begum to molest us so to death? We hope your Excellency will send an answer to this letter by the hands of our messenger, Fuzil Alee, and despatch him quickly, for we are reckless of life and are ready to destroy ourselves by taking poison. What can we say more? Consider a little to mean a great deal.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from the Ladies of the Muhl.

Let it be known to you, on the part of all the unfortunate ladies of the muhl, that after forty years the day fixed by fate has arrived, that is to say, to-day, Thursday the 5th of the month, when the deputy of Tuhseen Alee Khan, having built up the Delhi gate and assembled two thousand people, villagers and rajpoots, for the purpose of beating us poor helpless women, came and surrounded the muhl. It is also reported, that he intends forcibly to enter the inner apartments. He has turned out our female domestics, and does not permit them to come in to us. No offence has been proved against us. Our only offence is, that we are satisfied with his Excellency and will not be satisfied with Tuhseen; and for this offence he is ready to put us to death: and you, Sir, cause us to be put to death. Nukhut has also determined to withhold our food, that we may be starved into compliance. The Begum tells us that she will give us the increase of stipend which we ask, if we will accept the Darogah (Tuhseen). We, poor unfortunate women, are like a drop of water ready to fall. If you have a spark of humanity or generosity, we entreat you, for the sake of God and his Prophet, to take our case into your consideration, otherwise you will soon hear that, like a dying ember, we have been extinguished at once.

Translation of an Arzee from the Ladies of the Muhl addressed to the Nawwab Vizier.

Be it known to your Excellency, that it is the custom of the world for every poor and injured subject to seek redress from the prince, when justice is done to him. What offence have we committed, but that for protection we have caught hold of the skirts of your Excellency's garment? When we attempted to repair to your presence for the purpose of obtaining redress, the bearers and carriage drivers were prohibited from assisting us; and when we resolved to proceed on foot, six hundred people belonging to the Begum, peons and rajpoots, some with sticks and others armed, surrounded us, and considering us to be without a protector began to threaten us and raise a tumult. What could we unfortunate females do, but weep and wail and cry out for redress? at this juncture orders from Nukhut Alee Khan were suddenly brought to the peons, not to allow a single female domestic or other person to go out, and to stop all victuals

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from being carried in. Accordingly, we could get no food, nor was even a sweeper allowed to enter. Being reduced to the last extremity, that the Begum might be without excuse, we sent an arzee to her, informing her of our situation, by the hands of Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan and Mirza Serāj-ood Deen Hyder Khan. The news-writer of his Excellency and the Chuprassy of the news-writer to the Residency were present at the Begum's deorhee when our two messengers arrived with the arzee, and held a discussion on the subject of our representation, the details of which it would be too long to write. In the end, the Begum sent a verbal message by Khoosh Chushm, Khaujeh Sera, that she had done nothing on her part; that she had not sent the people; that she had no concern with our affairs; but that agreeably to the directions of a person of authority (the Resident), she had sent her people to attend Nukhut, and who might, on his own part, order what he pleased. That Tuhseen was the Nazir chosen by a person of authority, and would never be removed; that it was decreed by fate that he should be Nazir; that she had no concern in this affair; that we ought to inform our patron and protector of all the circumstances of our distress, and that he would do whatever he deemed to be best for us. We implore your Excellency, therefore, for the sake of God and of his Prophet and the posterity of the Prophet, and by the pure spirit of the departed Nawaub (Shuja-ood-Dowlah), with whose honour, as well as that of your Excellency, our honour is identified, to take our case into your consideration, and to save us from being disgraced and insulted at the hands of others, or otherwise to put us all as criminals to death with your own hand, that we may receive the punishment due to our guilt. If your Excellency, out of consideration for the wishes of the English gentlemen, can do nothing of yourself in this affair, be pleased to refer our case to the doctors of the holy law, and discuss the question (with the Resident). By the holy law, Tuhseen never can possess the right of being our master (wauris) and ruler (hākīm). It is now incumbent on your Excellency to save us from this tyrant (Tuhseen) and to defend our honour. If your Excellency shall maintain Tuhseen in his appointment of Darogah over us, we will destroy ourselves by poison. What species of tyranny, oppression, and indignity is left, which we have not experienced at the hands of Tuhseen? We are tired of life, and we have taken an oath on the Coran, that if Tuhseen shall be Darogah, we will take poison and never will consent to live. Alas! alas! a hundred times, that while your Excellency is preserved to us, we should suffer such dishonour and disgrace at the hands of Nukhut. We had talked among ourselves, that we should set fire to the Delhi gate and go out. Nukhut was informed of this as he was sitting in the mosque, when he said he would kindle a fire all round the muhl, and would deduct the amount of the loss out of our stipends. It appears to us that they intend to cast us into the fiery furnace, when Tuhseen will become Darogah of the dépôt of martyrs.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from the Ladies of the Muhl to His Excellency the Vizier.

Be it known to your Excellency, that on Monday the Chobdar of the Begum (Bhow Begum) came here to summon Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan to her Highness's presence. He accordingly repaired to the Deorhee, when a conversation took place with her Highness, through Khoosh Chushm Khaujeh Sera. To-day a conversation was held with him, through Saadet Khaujeh Sera, who informed him that her Highness desired him to return and make us understand that what we were doing would not be good for us. Her Highness at the same time sent for Nukhut, and he was present during the whole of the conversation. She said that Tuhseen would never be removed from the office of Nazir. The Mirza replied, that it was not possible that the ladies of the muhl would be satisfied, and that they would sooner submit to lose their heads or suffer whatsoever else should befall them. Saadet observed, "You shall not lose your head, the ladies shall not lose their heads, nor shall Tuhseen lose his appointment of Darogah, and what is not possible will become possible." Mirza Hoosein Alee said in answer, "as long as words only shall pass in this affair, I and the others will say nothing; but when Tuhseen shall proceed to
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"take any improper measures with the ladies, our heads shall go first, and after that whatever shall happen to the ladies cannot be helped: we will not consent to Tuhseen's being Darogah." Nukhut said to him, "it is you who mislead the ladies." The Mirza replied, "I have nothing to do with Tuhseen, but the case is this: If any one shall offer insult or indignity to the ladies of our late father's family, we will not survive the affront. What oppression have they not suffered? Their walls and doors have been closed up, their female domestics have been denied ingress and egress, their food has been withheld; what worse can befall them?....." And persuade the ladies of the muhl to desist from such proceedings, for otherwise they will be beat and driven into the muhl with broken legs and arms, and dragged there by the hair." Your Excellency will judge from this what we may expect to suffer. These indignities and the loss of life we submit to, but we will not submit to that accursed tyrant being Darogah. God knows, and all the world knows, that in no age have ever such iniquitous proceedings been witnessed.

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in Vizier's Letter

Verses.

"Our rent garments complain of our hands.
"The skirts of our robe complain of the tears we shed.
"So long have we been confined in the dungeon of sorrow,
"Our very chains are fretted and our prison complains of us."

No prospect of life remains to us. Perhaps the holy martyrs of the plain of Kerbelaw, and the wretched captives of the desert of calamity and woe, may come to the succour of us, wretched and afflicted sufferers.

Enough, enough! May God cause the sun of your life and prosperity ever to continue refulgent.

A true translation:

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Translation of a Memorial under the Seals of Hoosein Alee Khan and Serāj-ood-Deen Hyder, Brothers of the Vizier.

The circumstances of our unfortunate case are these: After the demise of his Excellency the late Nawaub-Shooja-ood-Dowlah, the Khoord Muhl was made a separate and distinct department by the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and the Bhow Begum had no further concern with it, nor did she interfere in our affairs. Our stipends were paid to us by the Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, distinct from that of her Highness: Nay, even when he sent presents of fruit, &c., he sent them separately for the Begum and separately for us. The Nazirship of Tuhseen Alee Khan depended on his obedience to us. When your Excellency ascended the musnud, you issued your orders for the issue of twelve months' stipend in the year. From that time Tuhseen was in the habit of deducting three per cent. for his own benefit, and without receiving fifteen or sixteen rupees from us he would not permit our relations to come and visit us. Various acts of oppression he was in the habit of exercising upon us, which made us weary of life. When we saw, at length, that we should be entirely ruined and must die under his Nazirship, and that no one took any heed of us, we of necessity came out of the muhl, and sent several letters to your Excellency, with an account of our situation; and we pledged ourselves to each other, that if your Excellency would not attend to our representations, we should set out barefooted to your Presence. Your Excellency was pleased to take compassion upon us, and appointed Mohummud Nusseem to be our Darogha. We had agreed to this, when in the mean time Tuhseen again sends a person, called Nukhut, on his part, to act as Darogha. Nukhut having come to Fyzabad said to us, "You, in your own imagination, have removed Tuhseen from the office of Nazir, but, thank God, you have once more
"come

* Some words appear to be left out here. What follows appears to be spoken by Nukhut.

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"come under the rod of Tuhseen: you will now find it so." When we found that Nukhut was so full of anger, we shut the doors and would not allow him to enter. We afterwards came out of the muhl, and the ladies of the muhl sent Mirza Kumaul-ood-Deen Hyder and me (Hoosein Alee Khan), to represent the circumstance of our case to your Excellency. When we reached your palace you did not call us to the Presence, nor did you take any notice of our condition. Being thus disappointed, we returned to Fyzabad and informed the ladies of what had passed. On that occasion Narain Doss, the vakeel of Tuhseen, said to Nukhut, "Do you remain silent. I will send for the Begum's peons, and give them a good beating until they submit to Tuhseen: please God, I will make them eat pease off my shoe. Shall a parcel of female slaves dare to disobey Tuhseen's order; and do they think that they can remove him from his office?" Nukhut and Narain Doss then went to the Begum, and brought with them six hundred peons to surround the muhl. They would not allow any food to be conveyed to us, nor would they permit any one, not even a sweeper or water-carrier, to come in or go out. On Thursday, when many of us kept fast, they would not allow parched pease to be brought to us. If there had not been a well in our house we should have perished for want of water. Nukhut, on that occasion, said to us, "Now that Tuhseen will be confirmed as Darogah, I will make you eat half split pease and rice, and half salt, for these doings." Seeing him in such a state of anger and passion, we addressed an arzee to the Begum in these words: "What crime have we committed, that we should be kept in confinement and denied meat and drink, and brought to the point of death? In the time of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, who was the fruit of your Highness's womb, your Highness never had any concern with our affairs, and now you exercise tyranny against us." The Begum sent a verbal message to our arzee by her Khaujeh Sera, Khoosh Chushm, that it was of no use sending arzees to her; that from the day of Shooja-ood-Dowlah's demise she had no concern with us and had relinquished all authority over us, but that she knew we should bring great disgrace upon ourselves if we did not consent to receive Tuhseen as Nazir; that she acted solely by the direction of the British Government; that she had not caused us to be confined, but that a great person had written to her, and that therefore she had placed her peons under the orders of Nukhut; that that person could do as he pleased; that we should inform our patron (wauris) of our situation, who would do what he deemed to be advisable. We therefore sent arzees to your Excellency, stating the circumstances of our situation, but we were not honoured by an answer from your Excellency; and Nukhut, seeing how matters stood, took a penalty bond from all the bankers not to advance a single farthing to the members of the muhl, on pain of being punished as a state delinquent. Dalmeer, the discharged peon and Narain Doss, having consulted with Nukhut, said to Saad Oollah, an officer of her Highness the Begum, who was put under their orders, "To-morrow you will drive them by force into the muhl." Saad Oollah demanded a written order to that effect, which might be a voucher if he were afterwards called to account, observing to them, that Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan and the other Sahibzadahs had declared at the Begum's deorhee, that if any indignity should be offered to the ladies of the muhl, they would sacrifice their lives in defence of their honour. Nukhut then told Saad Oollah that he would give him an answer the next day. Afterwards, Nukhut, on the part of the Begum, gave orders to the bearers and drivers of carriages, telling them if any one lent a carriage or cart, or any other vehicle, to the people of the muhl, they would be put in prison. From these proceedings we foresaw that by remaining here (at Fyzabad) we should be exposed to great indignity and insult, and accordingly we determined to proceed to Lucknow, and began to seek for the means of conveyance. Although we offered to pay double hire we were unable to procure a single vehicle: no one would agree to furnish us with carriages. Being thus without remedy, we resolved to set out on foot. Nukhut, upon this, gave orders again to Saad Oollah and the other people, that whenever the ladies should attempt to leave the muhl they should beat them well. Saad Oollah and his people asked for a written order from the Begum. Nukhut and Saad Oollah then went to the Begum and told her the state of affairs. The Begum said, "You must never lift a stick against the ladies, but as

" Nukhut

" Nukhut shall settle it: you must first beat the female slaves, that the ladies may be thus deterred from the attempt to quit the muhl." When we came out of the muhl the peons seized sticks and began cudgel play. Saad Oollah and others seeing that the ladies could not be distinguished from their women withdrew from the scene. We then left the city (Fyzabad) bareheaded and barefooted, in a miserable state, such as may our enemies never know. Nukhut called out aloud, " They are not going with the intention of getting Tuhseen removed, but to overthrow the Vizier, for his Excellency's Government is ready to fall to pieces, and they will gain nothing for their pains." After the ladies of the muhl had set out on their journey we went to the Begum's deorhee to request the means of conveyance, saying that we were to accompany the ladies of the muhl, and that the honour of Shooja-ood-Dowlah was involved in their honour; that we were descendants of Shooja-ood-Dowlah, and begging that we might be furnished with carriages. The Begum told us that she should not supply us with carriages, and that her reputation was not concerned. Being without help, we travelled as we could and reached Mourabee. On the next day, when we came to Mohummudpore, the chief man there also refused to furnish us with the means of conveyance. We were ready to die with the fatigue of walking on foot, and our feet were blistered in such a manner that we could not proceed: many of us also fainted from the excessive heat of the sun, and lay on the ground. We procured from the neighbourhood a few carts, and waggons, and carriages, and by this means brought on those who were unable to proceed further. When we came to Durreeabad the people shut their shops, and with the utmost difficulty we succeeded in procuring some flour and pease. In like manner were we treated at Nawaub-gunge and Salar-gunge. Such calamities, both in times past and the present, having been brought upon us by Tuhseen, how can we ever be reconciled to him? If your Excellency prefer Tuhseen and is indifferent about us, be pleased to take our lives, or let us depart for the holy shrines at Kerbelaw. Great God! while such a just protector (wauris) as your Excellency is preserved to us, how should it happen that we should suffer such tyranny and oppression, as never were experienced in the time of the late Assuf-ood-Dowlah? We never thought that your Excellency would have permitted the memory of the Nawaub, Shooja-ood-Dowlah, to be disgraced in such a manner. We have now no desire but to go to Kerbelaw. Neither honour nor reputation is left to us. The very slaves give us abuse to our faces; and Nukhut and Dulmeer, a discharged peon, Narain Doss, and others, order us to be beat, and say, " beat these female slaves till their legs be broken, for till their legs be broken they will not be stopped." Excepting our refusal to acquiesce in the appointment of Tuhseen, what fault have we committed, that we should suffer such severity and misfortune? We hope, from the justice of your Excellency, that you will give us redress, and we will ever pray for your happiness and prosperity.

A true translation:

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

*Translation of a Copy of a Letter from the Nawaub Vizier to Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, enclosed in the foregoing, dated the 31st August 1812.**

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to Major Baillie, dated the 31st August 1812.

With respect to what you have stated in your memorial addressed to me, on the subject of the contents of my letter to the Governor-General of the 17th of Shabaun (28th August), namely, that with regard to her Highness the younger Begum (Shums-oon-Nissa), the many frivolous complaints on points of the most trifling nature which I have stated against her Highness, seem to you to be unbecoming in the extreme and unworthy of my mind, while some of them are totally erroneous; and that having yesterday passed two complete hours

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* This Letter has been already given on page 439.

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in Viceroy's Letter.

On personal attendance on her Highness, you had a painful opportunity of listening to the detail of her grievances, and of observing the state of her accommodation, which, for my sake, you would have wished to suppress, but which you should now be compelled to report, by way of answer to my complaint, and as a justification of her Highness's resolution to quit my dominions. The state of the case is this: I said to you, that whatever you should propose I would agree to. After this you addressed a letter of inquiry after her health to the Begum, and you also had a personal interview with her. While I was yet expecting an answer, I received your memorial, containing the observations above recited; I have therefore addressed a letter to the Begum, which I now send to you enclosed in this. I wished, at the same time, to answer the other points of your memorial, but I am compelled by indisposition to postpone my intention till another opportunity. Of necessity I have written on this subject, and my reply to the other points shall be sent to you shortly, as soon as I get well. Until you shall receive it, I request that you will not forward to his Lordship my letter to his address.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Major Baillie, to the Nawaub Vizier, dated the 31st August 1812.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of this day's date, with a letter to the address of her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and have understood its contents.

The substance of what passed at my interview with her Highness (as the time does not admit of my entering into a detail of the particulars,) is as follows: I exhausted every argument to pacify her Highness, to induce her to desist from her resolution to expose herself to the troubles and fatigues of travelling, and to persuade her to remain in ease and comfort at home, or at the least to postpone her departure until I should have time to communicate an account of her situation to the Right Honourable the Governor-General; and I also gave her an express promise that your Highness would settle all her affairs, as well those pending at present as those which might arise hereafter, with every degree of attention to her Highness's rank and wishes; but to all these representations on my part she only replied, in the most earnest and resolute manner, that it was impossible that the toils and difficulties of travelling, nay (which God forbid) the pangs and agonies of death itself, could be equalled by the vexations and distresses which for a long time past she had submitted to bear, and that she would much rather prefer the first. She added, "From my experience of the past, what have I to expect from the future? It was my fixed determination to leave Lucknow this very day, and I only waited to receive your visit. I shall now depart without further delay, and I commit all my affairs into your hands and to the British Government; but for your sake, and not to disappoint the expectations of your Government, as well as in consequence of your interview with me to-day, I will consent to this much: On Tuesday the 31st of August I will leave this place and go to my jagier, where I will remain until the receipt of an answer to your letter from Calcutta, provided it arrive in the course of twenty-three days, after which, whatever may be the result, I will proceed into the Honourable Company's dominions." This is the substance of what Her Highness said to me at our interview. With respect to the buildings there, which I personally inspected, I will make a representation to your Excellency hereafter. For the present I have despatched your Excellency's letter to her Highness by a confidential messenger, and I will endeavour to prevail on her Highness to depart from her purpose. For the sake of your Excellency, as well as of her Highness, the interests of both of whom are the nearest objects of my heart, I pray to God that my representations may be attended with success, and that her Highness may be persuaded to remain in Lucknow. But if your Excellency is sincerely disposed

disposed to conciliate her Highness and pay her due respect, there is a strong probability; nay, I entertain a confident persuasion, that even after she shall have gone to her jagier, such an arrangement may be made as will induce her Highness to return to Lucknow, and enable her to remain here in future with honour, ease, and comfort.

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in Vizier's Letter.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Shums-oon-Nissa Begum to the address of Major Baillie. Dated 28th Shabaun (4th September 1812.) Vide page 437.

Enclosures in a Letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Persian Secretary to Government, dated 9th and received 20th September 1812.

Enclosures
in Resident's Letter.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from his Excellency the Vizier to Major Baillie, dated 30th Shabaun 1227 (9th September 1812).

With reference to what you have stated in your memorial, on the subject of the contents of my letter in reply to the letter from the Governor-General, namely, "To me it must form a source of the greatest surprise and concern, that your Excellency, after yielding to all my suggestions regarding the "khoord muhl," and so forth to the end. The case is this: that as to what you and his Lordship have recommended to be done in that affair, since his Lordship is my kind and affectionate friend, there can be no harm in my writing to his Lordship an account of the real state of the case; nay, it is necessary that I should do so.

With reference to your observation in the same memorial, viz. "of your "Excellency's pecuniary demand against her Highness the Bhow Begum," and so forth: my demand against her Highness is evident, from the terms of the engagement quoted in his Lordship's letter.

As the circumstances of the arrival at Lucknow of the ladies of the khoord muhl from Fyzabad, and the departure of her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum to her jagier, require that I should inform the Governor-General of these events, I have now addressed a letter to his Lordship on those subjects which I request you to forward at an early period.

Translation of a Copy of a Letter from Major Baillie to the Nawaub Vizier, dated 1st Rumzaun (9th September 1812).

I have been honoured by the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, conveying a letter from your Excellency to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and it is my intention, agreeably to your Excellency's desire, to forward that letter immediately, to-day if it can be copied in time, or certainly to-morrow, the 2d of Rumzaun (10th instant). In the mean time, however, in conformity with my established practice, founded on the sincerest regard for your Excellency and for the true interests of your Government, I shall offer a few observations on the general purport and contents of your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

With a reference to the statements under the seals of Mirza Hoosein Ale Khan and Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder, and to the copies of letters from the ladies of the muhl, which seem all to have been prepared in Lucknow and had never been seen by me before, I am clearly and decidedly of opinion, that the whole is a groundless fabrication on the part of the misleaders of those ladies and that oppression, harsh treatment, or improper conduct of any kind, can on no principle be ascribed to the unfortunate Tuhseen Ale Khan or to his naib; nay, that your Excellency knows better than I do, that those complaints, from beginning to end, are utterly erroneous and groundless. Mohummud Nukhut, who

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who went to Fyzabad, had never been admitted within the precincts of the khoord muhl, so as to give him an opportunity of saying what he is charged with; and if the statements of the Honourable Company's news-writer stationed at Fyzabad, which have been hitherto and are now daily transmitted to the Presidency, be worthy of any belief, they must be considered as perfectly conclusive against the truth of the accusations preferred, without any further comments on my part.

Before my receipt of your Excellency's letter, I had prepared a draft of a letter containing some friendly suggestions to your Excellency, with the view of putting a stop to the disorderly conduct of the ladies of the khoord muhl, which I meant to have submitted to your Excellency, and which the press of business alone has hitherto prevented me from having copied fair for transmission. And although, from a retrospect of the many recent occasions on which my earnest advice has been offered to your Excellency, with the view of strengthening the relations of amity between the two States, and that advice, at first apparently acquiesced in, has been ultimately openly disregarded or secretly opposed, I can indulge no very confident hope of the success of my representations on this occasion; yet, still, in the discharge of my duty, and from motives of sincere friendship, I shall submit the purport of the suggestions above noticed to your Excellency, before despatching your letter to the Governor-General's address. It is as follows.

Being satisfied in my own mind, from apparent circumstances as well as authentic information before me, that the ladies of the khoord muhl, now residing in this city, have been misled chiefly by the machinations of Doolhun Begum and three or four others, who have excited all the rest to proceedings derogatory to their character and destructive of their happiness and peace, and that matters could never have been carried to this extremity but for the machinations of these four; in addition to which it has been proved to me, that from the beginning of the disturbance till this moment, Mirza Shujaat Alee Khan has been the chief fomenter of the discontents, and the principal obstacle to the success of the just and necessary arrangement which is now under discussion: under all these circumstances, I suggest that the separation of Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, Mukhoo Begum, and one or two more of those ladies, who are the instigators of the ill conduct of the rest, and their temporary residence in some other convenient place, with the prohibition of Mirza Shujaat Alee Khan from visiting those ladies for a time, and the immediate departure of the other sons of the late Shuja-ood Dowlah who have recently come here with their families from Fyzabad, would, in all probability, nay, in my judgment, certainly, prove the means of putting a stop to every future disorder, and tend unquestionably to promote your Excellency's honour and reputation, as well as the future tranquillity of your mind.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark at the close of your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, "that I did not wait on the younger Begum:" as both your Excellency and his Lordship in Council are apprized not only of my having visited her Highness on Thursday the 18th of Shabaun (27th ultimo), and of my having used every possible argument and entreaty to dissuade her from her purpose of quitting Lucknow, but also of the failure of those arguments and entreaties, and the cause of it, the remark in your Excellency's letter above quoted might, I conceive, with propriety have been withheld.

Translation of a Letter from Doolhun Begum, and seven other Ladies of the Khoord Muhl, to Tuhseen Alee Khan. Vide page 442.

From the same to the same. Vide page 442.

From Kummer-oon-Nissa Begum, and seven other Ladies of the Muhl, to Tuhseen Alee Khan. Vide page 443.

Translation

Translation of the Substance of Papers of Intelligence, showing that Doolhun Begum, Mukhoo Begum, and Janee Begum, instigate the other Ladies of the Khoord Muhl to oppose Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan as Darogha (or Nazir), and also that private Instructions, to the same effect, are sent from Mirza Shujaat Alee Khan and the Ladies at Lucknow.

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in Resident's Letter.

(25th July 1812.) The Ladies of the muhl, on hearing of Tuhseen Alee Khan's appointment to the office of Nazir, raised a great clamour and disturbance. They came out of the Zenanah and caused the people to retire from the Delhi gate, as far as Angooree Baugh.

Heengoo, a female attendant of Doolhun Begum, with several others, went to Omrao Sing, the Vizier's news-writer, and dictated to him what they wished to be written.

(26th July.) Doolhun Begum, Peearee Bhye, and Janee Begum, caused each a flag to be erected in the bazar, and Mukhoo Begum erected one on the Delhi gate, and they all began to set up a cry of lamentation and mourning. The four ladies above named are the authors of these disturbances.

(27th July.) A letter from the Vizier has been sent, through Omrao Sing the news-writer, to Nusseem, the discharged Darogha, summoning him and his Umla to the Presence. Doolhun Begum and the other ladies, on being informed of its contents, said to Nusseem, "You are one with us, whatever befalls us will befall you." They told the news-writer that they would never consent to receive their stipends from the hands of a slave (alluding to Tuhseen Alee Khan), and that if Nusseem went to Lucknow they would give Fyzabad to the flames and go with him.

(28th July.) Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, and Mukhoo Begum, caused the Delhi gate to be opened, and cleared the whole of the bazar on the other side for their Zenanah, and they despatched Mirza Kumaul-ood-Deen Hyder and Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder on their affairs to Lucknow.

(29th July 1812.) Nukhut, the eunuch, and deputy of Tuhseen Alee Khan, the newly appointed Darogah, arrived from Lucknow, and came to the gate of the muhl, where he stood. Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, Peearee Bhye, Mukhoo Begum, and Janee Khanum, retired into the inner apartments. Nukhut delivered the Vizier's letter. The ladies, on reading it, said that they would never consent to what it contained. Nukhut requested that they would open the inner door a little, that he might inform them of the Vizier's commands. They replied, that they knew all he was going to say, and that if he brought them loads of diamonds and other jewels they would never take them from the hands of Tuhseen Alee Khan. They would not listen to his representations. Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder opened the door a little, and said to him in an angry tone, "What has brought you here? Take yourself off; you will not be allowed to remain in any part of this city." Nukhut accordingly went and took up his quarters in the public sera, called after Mirza Hussun Reza Khan.

(31st July 1812.) Heeranund, the news-writer to the Residency, sent a message to Doolhun Begum and the other ladies, that he wished to communicate something to them, and that they should send a confidential person to him. They returned for answer, that for fifty years past they had no correspondence or communication with the English gentlemen, none of whose people ever came to Fyzabad, and that they would not hear what he had to say. The news-writer then came away.

Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder, on the part of the ladies, desired all the dependents to execute a penalty bond, that they would not go to Nukhut the eunuch. Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, and Mukhoo Begum, enjoined their female attendants to take notice what persons of the muhl maintained any intercourse with Nukhut.

(5th August 1812.) It is understood, that Doolhun Begum, and the other ladies, carry on a correspondence, through Shujaat Alee Khan, with Shums-ood-Dowlah (the Vizier's son), and also with Shujaat Alee Khan himself (the Vizier's brother).

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ther). Doolhun Begum, Mukhoo Begum, Janee Begum, and Omda, a female companion, are intent on mischief.

(9th August.) Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan has come from Lucknow. He sent for Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, Mukhoo Begum, Nadira Bhaee, Cheetul Bhaee, Ishk Bhaee, Moosahib Bhaee, and others, and told them that it was the Nawaub Vizier's pleasure that they should agree to the appointment of Tuhseen Alee Khan as Darogha. They answered, that they had refused on a former occasion, and how would they agree to it now? And that they would set out for Lucknow in whatever manner they could.

(10th August.) Dhurum Doss, Ram Deen, and Bhagaw, Bankers, employed by the ladies of the Khoord Muhl, told Nukhut that the excitors of all the disturbances were Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, Mukhoo Begum, and Boochoo Khanum, and that these ladies had required them to execute a penalty bond, that they would not have any intercourse with Nukhut and his people.

(13th August.) On information being received of the ladies having come out of the muhl, her Highness the Bhow Begum ordered peons and telengas to be stationed at the Delhi gate, that no one might be allowed to go out. Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder and Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan, and several female slaves and attendants, made use of abusive language to the peons, and desired them to be gone, or otherwise they would receive a beating.

(14th and 15th August.) A Hurkarrah and Omrao Sing, the Vizier's news-writer, attended the deorhee of the ladies of the muhl, by their desire. Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, Mukhoo Begum, and others, held a private conference with them, through the medium of Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan, and sent Meer Assud Alee along with the news-writer, to assist him in writing what had passed.

(16th August.) Omrao Sing, the Vizier's news-writer, delivered with his own hand a letter from Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan, at Lucknow, to Doolhun Begum and Janee Begum. On his coming out from their deorhee he said to Zaffran, a female attendant, "Convey my congratulations to the ladies." Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder, and the other grandsons of Shooja-ood-Dowlah and the Begums, consulted together, when the Mirza caused all the ladies to affix their seal to a paper, expressive of their satisfaction with the Nawaub Vizier, and their dissatisfaction at the appointment of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the office of Darogha, and then delivered it, enclosed in a letter to Shoojaat Alee Khan, to the news-writer, who had been summoned to attend. Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen has placed a gun loaded with small shot at his door, saying that the preceding night he could get no sleep for the people of the Bhow Begum keeping watch, and that if they came their rounds this evening he would discharge the contents of the gun at them.

(17th August.) At twelve o'clock Mirza Hoosein Alee, at the desire of the Bhow Begum, attended her Highness, who repeatedly ordered him to expostulate with the ladies of the muhl and bring them to reason. The Mirza replied that they would never agree to the Nazirship of Tuhseen Alee, not even if the Nawaub himself were to come to Fyzabad; and that if the English Resident should attempt to appoint one person in room of another, they would not submit to it, but would complain to the Government at Calcutta.

(20th August.) Purdeea, gardener to Janee Begum, brought a letter from Ashruf-oon-Nissa Begum, at Lucknow, for her mother, Ishk Bae.

(21st August.) A person called Sufdurr Alee brought letters from Lucknow, addressed by Nujum-oon-Nissa Begum, to her mother, Beebee Rūhmūt, and to Janee Begum.

(24th August.) Yesterday Imaum Buksh, a servant of Mirza Ahmed Alee, grandson of Shooja-oo Dowlah, who had carried letters to Lucknow, returned with answers from Ashruf-oon-Nissa Begum to Doolhun Begum and Ishk Bae, her mother. To-day Alee Bukhsh, a bearer in the service of Lutchimsee Begum, was despatched with letters to the grand-daughters of Shooja-ood-

Dowlah

Dowlah at Lucknow. Nukhut, the eunuch, by the orders of the Bhow Begum, went to the Khoord Muhl near the Delhi gate. Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, Hyat Bae, and others, on hearing this, came and repeatedly called to him from behind the curtain, giving him abuse, and saying, "Why don't you come to us, that we may tie your hands and beat you, as you deserve?" Nukhut hung down his head with shame and went out by another way.

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in Resident's Letter.

(26th August.) To-day letters addressed to Shoojaat Alee Khan, Ashruf-oon-Nissa, Nujum-oon-Nissa, Zeenut-oon-Nissa, and Hyatee Begum, were despatched to Lucknow. Mirza Ahmed Alee, son of Mirza Inayet Alee, son of Shooja-ood-Dowlah, came to Nukhut, and whispered to him that Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan and the ladies at Lucknow wrote to the Begums, not to agree to the appointment of Tuhseen Alee Khan as Nazir.

(27th August.) At seven o'clock in the morning two female slaves, with flags in their hands, came out of the muhl. Afterwards Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan and Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder, with swords and shields, marched out to clear the way, and after them came all the Begums raising a cry of lamentation. Those two persons asked Nukhut why he offered no opposition to them? Nukhut replied: "I have written several arzees to the Nawaub, who has returned no answer. You are the Sahibzadahs (sons of Shooja-ood-Dowlah), and you can take the ladies of the muhl if it be your pleasure." All the ladies and female slaves, beating their breasts, have set out for Lucknow. The Darogha of the Mint and the Darogha of Golab Barea, belonging to the Vizier, attended them at the tank of Ahmed Alee, and supplied them with hired carriages, bearers, &c.

(28th August.) A carriage and two palkees have been sent by Seedee Nazir, in the service of the Bhow Begum; and three carriages, together with some bearers, have been supplied by Omrao Sing, the news-writer, for the use of Doolhun Begum, at Rotae.

Substance of Intelligence from the Quarters of Doolhun Begum and the other Ladies of the Muhl. (7th September.)

Mirza Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder and Hoosein Alee Khan, who had set out early on the morning to wait on the Nawaub, returned at nine o'clock. Mirza Syf Alee and Mirza Inayet Alee, grandsons of Shooja-ood-Dowlah, came to the ladies and held a conversation with them, after which they returned home. It appears that the sum of one thousand rupees has been privately furnished to the Begums, at their request, by Shums-ood-Dowlah, the Nawaub's son, for their expenses. A servant of Behrooze Alee Khan, eunuch, who was formerly Darogha of the Khoord Muhl, came to the deorhee, and sent his compliments to the ladies by the female attendants, and after inquiring after their health went away. At twelve o'clock Musseetie Begum and Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan went into the deorhee, and held a consultation with the Begums. It has been learnt from many of the female attendants, that all the Begums, with the exception of Doolhun Begum and three others, complained to Shoojaat Alee that it was entirely owing to him that they had come away and been disgraced; that not even a single ornament was left with one of them, which they might sell for their support; and that there appeared to be no prospect of any adjustment of their affairs by his Excellency the Vizier. The Mirza gave them many assurances to pacify them. Many of the Begums also expressed a desire that they should each separately receive their stipends from the Vizier. Hoosein Alee Khan sent for Mukhoo, the Hircarra of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and asked him by whose orders he attended the deorhee to collect intelligence. The Hircarra stated, that it was his duty to attend on the part of his master, to keep him informed of the health of the Begums: upon which the Mirza took him by the hand and carrying him to the Zenanah, informed Doolhun Begum of the circumstance. Doolhun Begum, Janee Begum, and the rest of the Begums, came behind the outer gate, and called out in a loud voice, that the Hircarra should be well beaten with a bamboo and his nose be cut off, and that Tuhseen was the cause of all their disgrace, for which they hoped he would be punished hereafter.

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The sepoy then turned the Hircarrah out, and warned him not to show his face there again, as he wished to escape a drubbing. The Hircarrah then left the place and went to Tuhseen. During the whole of the day a communication was maintained, by means of the female attendants, between the daughters of Shooja-ood-Dowlah at Lucknow and the Begums. At seven o'clock in the evening Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan and Musseetic Begum took leave of the Begums and returned to their own houses. Many of the ladies of the muhl are tired of remaining at Lucknow, and cry out aloud that they have been misled by Janee Begum and the sahibzadahs (Serauj-ood-Deen Hyder and Hoosein Alee Khan), who caused them to take an oath on the Coran, and that they have been ruined by them; that nothing has yet been done for them; that they are in want of the means of daily subsistence; and that they are looking for the time to return to Fyzabad and receive their stipends.

About nine o'clock at night Hoosein Alee Khan set out to hold a conference with the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, and returned in the course of two hours.

To day (8th September) Mirza Abbas, Mirza Ameen Alee, and some others of Shoojaa-ood-Dowlah's grandsons, set out to wait on the Vizier; but meeting him by the way, they paid their compliments, without having an opportunity of presenting their nuzzers. Several of the female attendants yesterday took away some of the articles belonging to the Imaumbarrah and the mosque. The Vizier, on being informed of this, sent one hundred and fifty bearers and porters to carry away all the things in the Imaumbarrah, and to place them in safety at Baolee. Noor Mohummud, a Hircarrah in the service of the Bhow Begum, who had gone to the deorhee of the Begums in company with the Residency Hircarrah, was stopped by Meer Imaum Alee and Mirza Motie, who turned them both away, saying, "Why do you come here after having executed a penalty bond 'not to come?'" They threatened to beat them if they presumed to return, and said that they would never permit the Bhow Begum's Hircarrah to enter the deorhee. However much the Hircarrah of the Resident expostulated with them, telling them that the Bhow Begum's Hircarrah accompanied him by the Resident's order, and that it was improper to stop them, they replied, that they had received orders from the ladies of the muhl and Hoosein Alee Khan not to admit the Bhow Begum's Hircarrah. The Hircarrah accordingly came away.

Intelligence from the Deorhee of the Begums at the Imaumbarrah of the late Nawaub, Assuf-ood-Dowlah, 8th September.

The Darogha of Mirza Ghazce-ood-Deen Hyder (son of the Vizier) having stationed peons on the road between the Imaumbarrah and Baolie, has conveyed away all the gold and silver articles from the former to the latter place. At three o'clock Mirza Syf Alee Khan, Inayet Alee Khan, and the wife of Mirza Adjoo, came and paid a visit to the ladies of the muhl. The female attendant of Musseetic Begum mentioned that her mistress, on seeing that the female attendants had carried away many of the articles belonging to the Imaumbarrah without the Nawaub's leave, said to the Begums, that such proceedings would be injurious to their interests, and that the Vizier would be much displeased. The ladies of the muhl, on hearing this, were offended with Musseetic Begum, and asked her if she meant to accuse them of theft? On this account Musseetic Begum and Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan have not come to visit them to day. The peon of Beebee Fyzee told the Hircarrah of the Residency, that his mistress was averse to coming from Fyzabad to Lucknow, but that Doolhun Begum and the sons of Shooja-ood-Dowlah had brought her away by force; that she was much embarrassed on account of her daily expenses, and that she complained that there was no one in Lucknow to afford her pecuniary assistance. He added, that his mistress had sold her bracelets and other ornaments to support herself; that she would share the fortunes of the other ladies for one week more, but if in that time nothing was done for them, she would leave them and return to Fyzabad. Many of the bankers who accompanied the Begums from Fyzabad and have established themselves at their deorhee, say that as the sons of Shooja-ood-Dowlah and Doolhun Begum and Janee Begum, who purchase cloths and other articles, it must be supposed from that circumstance that they are privately assisted

assisted from some quarter with money, for otherwise, without borrowing money for them, the ladies themselves have not funds to make such purchases.

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A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Enclosures
in Resident's Letter.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you a letter from her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which has this day been received from Pertaubgunge, the place of her Highness's encampment in her jagier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

From Her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum. (Received the 21st September 1812.)

Letter
from the Begum.

A long time has elapsed since a kind letter from your Lordship has soothed my troubled heart and brought comfort to my afflicted spirit: grant, great God, that the cause of this intermission of our correspondence be nothing but the entire occupation of your Lordship's time and attention with public affairs. The communications of Major Baillie, as well as my former letters, must have already afforded your Lordship full information of the wretched situation of my affairs. Under this supposition, however aggravating it must be to your Lordship's feelings to revert to so painful a subject, yet as my sufferings have now reached the utmost verge of endurance, and death is more desirable than life, I am compelled once more to state the circumstances of my case.

My kind friend, it will not be unknown to you that the much-injured female who now addresses you is the daughter of the Nawaub Intizām-ood-Dowlah Bukhsheer-ool-Moomalik Khan Khānān, son of the Nawaub Vizier-ool-Moomalik Asoph Jah Eatemād-ood-Dowlah Intizām-ool-Moolk Meer Kummer-ood-Deen Khan Cheen Behauder Nusrut Jung, son of the Vizier-ool-Moomalik Nawaub Meer Mohummud Aunur Khan Cheen Behauder. The high respect which the late Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah manifested towards her illustrious Highness, the Nawaub Begum Sahiba, my grandmother, a world of people are yet alive to bear testimony to, on their personal knowledge, and there still survive some of the nobles and courtiers of that period who witnessed the joy and exultation of Shooja-ood-Dowlah at the honour he considered his family to have acquired by an alliance with our illustrious house, to which, after the most earnest solicitation and entreaty, he obtained the consent of his departed majesty, Shah Allum. Notwithstanding the change of fortune, and the confusion into which the affairs of the empire were thrown by the rebellion of some disloyal and ungrateful subjects, no indignity, nor disrespect, was ever experienced at the hands of any individual by the members of our illustrious house. The Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah entertaining a just consideration for my rank, regarded me as one who had ennobled his family, and sought with such devotion to promote my satisfaction, and manifested such kindness and favour towards me in so many ways that the particulars could not be contained in volumes. Whenever the recollection of the past comes into my mind, the comparison of it with the present embitters existence. On the succession of Shooja-ood-Dowlah's son, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, to the musnud, my rank and dignity continued daily to be respected more and more, and with the union of our destinies so intimately were our affections united, that I looked upon him as my very self, and myself as his very self. In a state of such perfect identity of person, the sense of mutual obligation, no more than the cause of complaint on either side, could be conceived to exist. There was no department of the State, the officers of which ever objected to obey my will, and every one executed my commands with all his heart and soul not a single inhabitant of the city had power to act

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perversely towards any of my household. After the demise of Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, when the signs of unworthiness appeared on the forehead of Vizier Alee Khan, I expressed my hope to the late Governor-General, Sir John Shore, that due attention would be paid to my rank and situation. On that occasion I received from him assurances of the most gratifying and satisfactory nature, and I have in my possession a letter from him to the same effect, written to me at the time when Vizier Alee Khan was removed from the musnud, and his Excellency Saadut Alee Khan was elevated in his room. Notwithstanding my high rank and station, and my right to be treated with the utmost reverence and respect by his Excellency my brother, I have experienced from him such tyranny and oppression as could not be detailed in writing in fifteen years. My hereditary possessions in Delhi, consisting of villages and houses purchased by my ancestors, were on my grandmother's decease given in charge by me to the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah. On the expiration of the term of mourning for the late Nawaub, and the settlement of the question respecting Vizier Alee Khan, I requested his Excellency the Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan to give the sunnuds of release and possession for the property in question to my agents at Delhi. To this request his Excellency at first returned no answer: being at length pressed by frequent letters and verbal messages, he amused me with promises from day to day. A letter containing his promise is forthcoming. Fourteen years and some months have since passed away, and his Excellency still usurps possession. I trust that your Lordship, who is endowed with the power of just discrimination, will pause for a moment to view with attention this act of tyranny.

Other mean acts of tyranny and oppression, which I consider it a disgrace even to mention, his Excellency does not blush to sanction: such, for example, as discontinuing the pay of the palkee-bearers of my establishment, the allowance for candles and oil, the allowance for the hospital and for pawn, the pay of the peons, chobdars, and abdaur, the allowance for feeding the horses of the eunuchs, and other charges, all of which were established of old, and were current even during a considerable time after his Excellency's elevation to the musnud. How can I enter into a detail of such transactions, which cannot but give extreme pain and dissatisfaction to a liberal mind, and a heart which reveres justice, such as your Lordship's? Moreover, I abstain from enlarging on a subject so fatiguing and painful to your Lordship, as I am afraid of intruding on the little leisure which the multiplicity of important public affairs may allow you to enjoy. What I have now stated I have been unavoidably compelled to state, for the tyrannical acts of his Excellency my brother, which have not even left a place in my body for my soul to reside in, will not suffer me to remain silent. Another more singular occurrence than the preceding is as follows: My brother was desirous from the very first to discontinue the supplies for my table. Accordingly, in the time of Colonel Scott they were stopped for a month and some days. As the Almighty has been pleased to distinguish the virtuous nation of the English above all other nations, by their love of justice and by the regard which they pay to the rank and situation of every individual, they never on any occasion depart from the strict line of justice, nor suffer one to oppress another, as well from a respect for the principles of government as from a desire to do what is pleasing in the sight of God. Colonel Scott reported the circumstance to the Governor-General, Marquess Wellesley, and with the sanction of his Lordship, with much severity and anger caused my table to be supplied as before, and a compensation in money, at the average of the usual expense, to be paid to me for the time during which the supplies had been withheld. Although satisfied that the exercise of acts of injustice and oppression would never be permitted by the English gentlemen, in whose court of justice the renowned monarch Nooshirwaun would be proud to hold the office of doorkeeper, still his Excellency persevering in his tyrannical career, caused such victuals to be furnished for my table as my servants turned away from with loathing and disgust. Being without remedy, I defrayed my table expenses out of the receipts of the small jagier which the late Nawaub had settled upon me, through the agency of Mr. Middleton, for the supply of tobacco, cawn, and missee, for the use of my household, and I caused the victuals to be cooked within the muhl. I cannot but lament the stupidity of his Excellency in this affair, that he

he did not for a moment reflect that, in a case so clear and evident as this, if the British Government was prevented by any obstacle from augmenting the sources of provision for one whom it considered to be entitled to superior attention and respect, it would never, at least, suffer such a person's established privileges to be diminished or infringed; and that in elevating his Excellency to the musnud, the real object and ultimate intent of the English gentlemen were, that he should administer the affairs of the country with justice, and promote the happiness of his subjects; not that they had commissioned him to seize with the hand of rapacity the property of the inhabitants and to oppress and tyrannize over the people; or that, in violation of the established forms of respect to be observed towards families of high and illustrious descent, he had been authorized to disgrace and degrade those who were entitled to be treated with distinction and honour. Merciful God, what words are these which have dropped from my pen! The just and virtuous consider the exercise of injustice under their sanction to be worse than the commission of it by themselves, and look upon it as more criminal to authorize another to practice cruelty and oppression, than to be guilty of those acts in their own person. All that has befallen me is solely to be ascribed to the tyrannical disposition and folly of my brother, which all the salutary counsel and zealous exertions of the English gentlemen cannot mend. If, notwithstanding their strenuous exertions in my behalf, his Excellency has thus persevered in his career of tyranny, what would have become of me had they, contrary to their usual and praiseworthy conduct, been indifferent to my fate, and instead of protecting and watching over my interests and welfare, had shut their eyes to my brother's proceedings.

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from the Begum.

Another and more singular instance of his Excellency's tyrannical disposition is as follows:—As he cannot actually deprive me of my jagier, he is desirous, from an innate spirit of malevolence, to render it a barren and unproductive waste. Actuated by these motives, when the refractory Zemindars of my jagier, find a secure place of retreat within the Khalsa lands of his Excellency, and the crops and carry off the property of the Ryots, his Excellency adopts no measures for the prevention or punishment of such proceedings; nay, on seeing that these acts afford his Excellency satisfaction, the Zemindars of the Khalsa are accustomed to excite disturbances in my jagier, and seizing my ryots, they carry them away, and do not set them at liberty until they have extorted money from them. On a former occasion, while your Lordship was at Madras, I stated the particulars of this affair to his Excellency the Vice-President. It is now some months since Sheikh Mussood, a Zemindar under the protection of the Aumil of Nawaubgunge, belonging to his Excellency, forcibly cut and carried off the crops of a mouzah in my jagier. Notwithstanding my kind friend the Resident repeatedly exerted his influence with his Excellency to obtain redress of this grievance, no success attended his representations. In another case, Goolaub Sing, a Zemindar of the Khalsa, slew Sudder Sing, the shuhna of one of the mouzahs of my jagier; and the same person has several times plundered my ryots of their property. Every exertion on the part of the Resident to procure the punishment of Goolaub Sing proved ineffectual. As the punishment of the guilty deters others from the commission of similar offences, and as connivance at their crimes gives confidence and encouragement to the evil-minded, the disturbances of the disaffected in my jagier, who have a safe place of retreat within his Excellency's khalsa lands, and of the robbers and marauders residing in the khalsa contiguous to my jagier, have risen to such a pitch, that the small pittance of revenue which I now enjoy will shortly be entirely stopped. There is not a single Aumil, officer, or servant of his Excellency, from whom I have not experienced indignity or oppression. To detail the instances of disrespect, on the part of the officers of his Excellency's court of oppression, which he has dignified by the title of court of justice, would require a volume. Despairing, therefore, of accomplishing so arduous a task, I give a new direction to the current of my discourse. The circumstances, indeed, of the transactions to which I have alluded, must have been communicated to your Lordship by the Resident, Major Baillie, whose consideration for my rank, and whose kind exertions in my behalf, exceed the powers of description.

Another similar instance of his Excellency's enmity, which I communicated to the Vice-President in your Lordship's absence, I now consider it necessary to state

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state to your Lordship. At a former period, when I was labouring under a severe depression of spirits occasioned by the decease of the late Nawaub, and when I was also attacked with a violent fit of asthma, I requested his Excellency, as my own muhl was in a confined situation, to permit me to reside at Mutchee Bhuwun. The result of my application was, that after his Excellency had repeatedly broken his promise, he at last wrote to me, in answer to a letter from me complaining of his conduct, that he had only appeared to agree to my request to humour me, and that, consistently with good manners, he could not give me a plain refusal. Since that time I have never made another request of him. My health having suffered extremely in the course of the last fifteen years, from the repeated indignities which I experienced at his Excellency's hands, and which preyed upon my mind, I requested the Resident last year to obtain permission for my visiting the gardens of Kaukerabaud for a change of scene, and in the hope of finding relief from my asthmatic complaint. His Excellency not thinking it proper to refuse the Resident's request, secretly issued orders to the people in charge of the gardens to fill all the apartments of the house with the sweepings and rubbish of the grounds. On my arrival there, unsuspecting of such meanness and malice on the part of his Excellency, I found the house full of dust, rubbish, and stripped of furniture and floor-cloths. Vexed and incensed more than ever at this mark of disrespect, I returned to my own house on the third day. Being without remedy, I at last bethought me that if I could build a small house on the banks of the river, within the precincts of the bazar attached to my own deorhee, the sight of the running stream might occasionally divert my melancholy, without being under an obligation to any one. Accordingly I purchased from some of the inhabitants of my bazar, for more than the value of their mud and straw huts, a piece of ground for the erection of a house. My brother, from motives of enmity, and with a view to lessen my dignity, instigated one of the inhabitants to bring forward a plea of a proprietary right in the ground, as having been held by his ancestors, and by a decree of the demons of his court of Adawlat (by which I mean the law officers, who are the instigators of mischief) he caused a stop to be put to the prosecution of the work. Although the Resident, my kind and compassionate friend, used every means in his power to prevent the work being stopped, he failed of success. In consequence of this indignity, the not being permitted to build a house on the ground attached to my own deorhee, where the vilest of the people construct their huts, and for which I had paid the money, I was desirous of leaving the city the same day; but my kind friend abovementioned, whose affection and regard cannot be equalled by that of a son or a brother, soothed my mind by his consoling expressions, and succeeded in allaying the flames of my just indignation.

But the most disgraceful of my brother's acts is as follows. A person called Benec Pershaud, a low writer, whose salutation a sweeper of my house would have been ashamed to return, being puffed up with pride on becoming a farmer of customs, with the concurrence and authority of my brother seized all the people of the town and the suburbs who were in the habit of supplying my bazar, and caused them to enter into a penalty bond not to bring their articles for sale in my bazar; although I sent to the Resident a petition from those persons, with the terms on which they were willing to purchase permission to trade in my bazar; and although Major Baillie spared no pains to promote their suit with his Excellency, his exertions failed of success. The farmer of customs relaxed not from his unjust and oppressive course of proceeding, nor did his Excellency dismiss from his thoughts the desire of heaping indignities upon me. The weight of these injuries and insults has pressed so hard upon me, and has so broken my health and spirits, that I cannot live in this climate, and notwithstanding the skill and attention of my two physicians my complaints suffer no abatement. When I reflect, also, on the pain which the knowledge of the indignities and injuries to which the cruel tyranny of his Excellency has exposed me during a course of fifteen years must have occasioned to the English gentlemen, I suffer more from vexation on this account than even from the sense of my own sufferings. The tyrannical conduct of his Excellency has moreover reached such a pitch, that human nature is unable longer to endure it, and it has become impossible to live under such circumstances of dishonour and disgrace

disgrace in this land of trouble. The climate, also, is unfavourable to my constitution. Accordingly, I could not restrain myself from writing to Major Baillie, that it was my intention to depart from this land of trouble, and to take up my residence in the Honourable Company's dominions. Major Baillie made use of every argument to dissuade me from the execution of my purpose, pointing out to me the difficulties which would attend my travelling in the unprepared state in which I was, and striving to comfort and console me; but as my soul was ready to quit my body, and death itself was preferable to living in Lucknow, I would not consent to stay, and removed to my jagier at Pertaubgunge, with the intention of prosecuting my journey to Calcutta. The conduct of his Excellency on this occasion will afford to your Lordship's discerning mind the best test of his intentions; for, until my tents were actually sent on in advance, he never wrote a single line to me. After they had been sent on, he addressed a letter to me through the Resident, containing some preliminary observations, which excited my utmost indignation. An infant at the breast might be capable of discerning that his Excellency's letter was written entirely at the solicitation of the Resident, and with a view to exculpate himself. Your Lordship has doubtless perused a copy of his Excellency's letter, and the spirit of its contents cannot fail to have been rightly understood by your discerning mind. His Excellency's assertion, that he is ignorant of the cause of my distress, is sprinkling salt upon my wound; and his professing that my departure has occasioned him nothing but grief and sorrow, when he reflects on the distress to which it will expose me, and the scandal which it may create among those who are ignorant of the true state of circumstances, has torn afresh my bleeding heart. I cannot but admire the extent of my brother's sagacity. With regard to the sincerity of his promise of service, I need only observe, that when he resided at Benares he addressed letters to me after the decease of the late Nawaub, assuring me of his desire to serve me. In the course of the fifteen years which have elapsed since that time, what services has he left undone to make me weary of life, that he should still desire to render me more? Although I was not to be deceived by the contents of his letter, I was willing, at the request of Major Baillie, communicated to me through a confidential messenger, to postpone my departure for two days further. Accordingly, I did not set out until Tuesday morning, at which time it having been reported to me that his Excellency had made an observation in company, that I was waiting for him to make an apology to me, for that otherwise what prevented me from commencing my journey, I could no longer restrain my indignation, but set out immediately, notwithstanding the burning heat of the sun.

My kind Lord: in the sincerity of my heart I assure you, that my object in relating these transactions is not to prepare the way for any application on my part for an augmentation of my jagier or of the established sources of my subsistence, neither is it to seek for reconciliation, or for redress of my injuries; but my sole object is merely this, that as the Almighty has pre-eminently endowed the English with the virtues of justice, magnanimity, and a love of truth, your Lordship, who is the fountain of equity and justice, full of kindness and affection, justly discriminating the truth and appreciating the rank and worth of every one, will, according to the dictates of your just disposition, be pleased to direct your attention to my oppressed condition and my injured rights, and not withhold from me the observance of that degree of respect and consideration which was established for me by the late Vizier, and to which the rank of my ancestors entitles me, and that you will afford me such a proof of your regard as may enable me in future to pass my life in tranquillity and comfort, which but for the kind and sympathizing attention of Major Baillie, would have come to an untimely end. My wish is, that my days may not be wasted in this land of trouble in the sinful neglect of the ordinances of my religion (alluding to the performance of a pilgrimage). Your Lordship's kindness in this respect will both be pleasing in the sight of God, and will exalt and perpetuate your reputation in all times and in all regions of the earth.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

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Letter
from the Begum

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2 July 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch to your address under date the 9th instant, having reference to the tenor and contents of the Vizier's letter of that date to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, I deem it to be my duty to transmit to you, for his Lordship in Council's notice, the enclosed copy and translation of two letters on that subject, which have more recently passed between his Excellency and me.

2. The Vizier's rejection of my proposal, with the view of putting an immediate stop to the disorderly conduct of a few of the ladies of the khoord muhl, affords an additional though unnecessary proof of what is apparent to every respectable inhabitant of Lucknow, that his Excellency has been the sole instigator of the resistance of those ladies to the authority of the Nazir from the beginning, and that, with the exception of four or five of the ladies who are particularly encouraged in their opposition by advances of money, under his Excellency's orders, for their support, every individual of the muhl now confined in the Imāmbarrāh is sincerely and anxiously disposed to return in peace to Fyzabad, and prevented from executing this design alone by the restraints which are imposed on them.

3. The nature and object of his Excellency's allusion in his letter to the pain with which he would view the further disorderly conduct of women, whose conduct has ever been disreputable, and whose present proceedings are instigated and directed solely by himself, must be sufficiently apparent to you to supersede comment on my part. If his Excellency's honour or reputation, or the memory of the Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah could be affected in any degree by the disorderly conduct of women, who have neither honour nor reputation to lose, and whose rank in his father's household was never higher than that of slaves, the injury now complained of has been sustained in a similar degree on a number of former occasions, and its reparation by an act of obvious justice and expediency is at present exclusively in his Excellency's hands.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st Ramzaun 1227, 9th September 1812.)*

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 2d Ramzaun 1227, 10th September 1812.)

I have perused your letter of the 1st instant, in reply to mine of the Sulukh (last day) of Shabaun, acquainting me of your intention to transmit to the Right Honourable the Governor-General the letter which I sent you to his Lordship's address. It is well. Send, as you propose, my letter to his Lordship, and also a copy of this my shookha to you.

With respect to your observation, that the statement under the seals of Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan Behaudur, &c. (recapitulate). The fact is this: It is true that the statement of my brothers has been prepared since their arrival at Lucknow, and submitted to me here, and that the letter of the ladies of the muhl, and the agreement entered into between them, formerly received from Fyzabad, have been copied here. Copies of what they had written, without the smallest alteration, are enclosed in my letter to his Lordship, and some of their letters on being received from Fyzabad were originally sent for your perusal; but as you did not seem to give much credit to the contents of those letters, I discontinued transmitting them to you.

You

* This letter has already been given on page 455.

You remark, that before receiving my letter you had drafted some friendly suggestions with regard to the khoord muhl, &c. (recapitulate). The state of the matter is this: I have certainly performed all that I promised to you on this head. If you had mentioned more particularly the deviations from my promises, and that they were known to me, I should have written a reply to this remark.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

You have stated, that from motives of sincere friendship (recapitulate). You are, indeed, my undoubted friend and well-wisher, the strength of my arm, and personally dear to me, and I hope that you will ever continue to be so. It would grieve and afflict me if the contrary, which God prevent, should ever appear.

With reference to your proposal of the separation of Doolhun Begum, &c. (recapitulate). The truth is: That the agreement entered into among themselves by the ladies of the muhl, a copy of which is enclosed in my letter to the Governor-General, must convince you that the separation of the ladies you mention from the rest would prove the source of additional clamour and disturbance. It was always my wish that none of the ladies should quit the muhl nor commit disturbance: but bad management has led to the present disgraceful proceedings. As the ladies of the muhl and my brothers above-named are all leagued together in their measures, it is impossible to separate them: on the contrary, I am convinced that if orders should be issued for the separation of those four ladies, and for prohibiting the visits of my brothers, whose mothers are among the number, they would all immediately quit the restraint of the muhl; and I cannot, therefore, as far as I have power, or as the matter may rest with me, consent to a measure which would have the effect of driving those ladies into the streets and bazars, for it would be more painful to me than death to witness such a scene as that described. The ladies of the muhl being no longer regardful of any thing, I have, of necessity, written on this subject to you. Consider with justice and impartiality how nearly I am related to these ladies, and you will own that, under this circumstance, I must view with pain their degradation and dishonour, by their appearing abroad in the streets.

You have stated, that with a reference to one remark in my letter to the Governor-General respecting the younger Begum, &c. (recapitulate). The truth is this: At the time when you agreed to wait on her Highness, for the purpose of effecting a reconciliation, and asked me whether I would agree to all your proposals, and I answered "yes," you did not certainly then go for the purpose in question, but, on the contrary, you informed me that her Highness did not seem pleased with your intention of waiting on her for the purpose of effecting a reconciliation. Hence it follows, that your going to her with that view is one thing, and your waiting on her more recently, in consequence of your hearing of her intention to leave the city, is another.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, an English copy of the memorial which I submitted to his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of his Excellency's letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and a Persian copy of which, with a copy of his Excellency's letter now under revision, was conveyed to the Persian Secretary in my despatch of the 5th instant.

2. I have repeatedly called on the Vizier for a communication of the result of his thoughts on the subject of the accompanying document, but his Excellency

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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Letter
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lency seems disposed at least, if not determined, to evade a satisfactory communication on any of the remaining points which are treated in the Governor-General's letter, till he receive a reply to his own letter on the questions of the superintendence of the khoord muhl, and of her Highness the younger Begum's departure from Lucknow.

3. His Excellency's recent proceedings, and more particularly the proceedings of his Aumil of Baraitch towards her Highness the Bhow Begum, and with a reference to certain portions of her jagier and jaidad, have been oppressive and violent in the extreme, and have induced her Highness to address a letter on this subject to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which I have received, and shall hereafter transmit to the Secretary in the Persian Department. A translation of a letter from her Highness to my own address, and a copy and translation of a letter which I have addressed in her behalf to the Vizier, are conveyed by this despatch for information.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Enclosure.

*Memorial transmitted to His Excellency the Vizier. (20th Shabaun 1227,
29th August 1812.)*

I have perused with great attention the letter which your Excellency has sent to me, to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General. It was not only my anxious wish, but also my well-grounded hope, after the communication which I made to your Excellency at our conference on the 16th of Shabaun (25th instant), that your letter to his Lordship should contain nothing whatever having reference to any question that is treated in it, to the truth of which I should not be enabled with cheerfulness to subscribe, and to support by my concurrence with your Excellency every statement to be contained in your letter. Disappointed entirely in this hope, and in the natural expectation which I had formed, although nothing was omitted at our conference which seemed worthy of being stated to your Excellency with a view to the speedy and satisfactory adjustment of all the points of His Lordship's letter; yet, under the idea that my remarks on that occasion may have escaped your Excellency's memory, and with a view to remove all further responsibility from myself, by leaving no argument unessayed to afford conviction to your Excellency's mind, I shall recall to your recollection the observations which I made at our last interview; and in the course of my recapitulation of those remarks, I shall reply to such fresh matter as your Excellency has introduced into this letter. And 1st, with a reference to your Excellency's proposal of the nomination of one of your sons to be accompanied by a detachment of British troops for the purpose of settling your country, this measure was agitated, if I mistake not, long before I had the honour of residing at your Court, and was departed from or suspended by your Excellency, after mature deliberation, on various grounds of expediency, which are obvious, and which it is unnecessary now to describe. But your Excellency must be perfectly aware, that the proposal abovementioned was not accompanied by any plan or scheme of a settlement or system of assessment of your revenues, to be executed by your son or any other person, which the British Government might have been called upon to approve or disapprove; and, on the contrary, that the first suggestion of a regular plan for the just assessment and future realization of the revenue was submitted to your Excellency originally by me and afterwards enlarged on and explained to you by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in his Lordship's letter to your Excellency's address, under date the 28th of December 1810. It follows, therefore, that the approbation or disapprobation by the British Government of a system or settlement suggested by your Excellency was totally impossible, since no such suggestion had ever been made: but even now I am free to declare, that, according to my judgment, there is none of your Excellency's sons possessing that degree of knowledge and experience in revenue affairs, which could recommend him for such an employment; and further, that in my opinion neither the aid of the British troops, nor
of

of any other military force, can be required for the settlement of the revenues of a country, if the objects of the settlement be justice, moderation, and a due regard to the rights of the subject, without the wish or intention of making excessive demands, and of enforcing them by violence and oppression.

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Secondly, in regard to the objections which are stated by your Excellency in your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General against the system which his Lordship recommended, although those objections have been already repeatedly answered and removed, I will again, in a summary manner, submit the answers to your Excellency. The jumma bundy, or settlement of your Excellency's dominions, in the manner which his Lordship has proposed, by a fair standard of assessment for a fixed period of years, can, with the utmost facility, be accomplished without any immediate recourse to the expedient of universal measurement of the lands, and the following is a proof of this assertion. The jumma bundy of all the ceded and conquered provinces of the Honourable Company's territory has been effected in the manner proposed, and settlements, first for three years, then for four, and ultimately for ten years, intended to be perpetual, have been made, and not a fourth part, nor a tenth, nor even a twentieth part of the lands, has to this day been subjected to measurement. The necessity for actual measurement is obviously limited to cases where the quality and produce of the lands cannot by other means be ascertained, to that degree of accuracy on which a fair and moderate assessment can proceed; where disputes between the revenue officers and landholders arise, which can in no other way be adjusted, as when the demands of the one are exorbitant, and the others are obstinate in withholding what may be considered as a reasonable jumma; and this state of things may occur in one or two villages of a district, but not surely in every village of every district in your Excellency's dominions, so as to suspend the settlement of the whole, till the whole shall have been actually measured. In addition to which I submit, that such a rigid assessment as this, which your Excellency would propose in the first instance by actual measurement of the lands, is what no just or wise government would suggest on the introduction of a new system to its subjects: On the contrary, a moderate assessment should in the first instance be made and established for a term of years, in order to give confidence to the people, to encourage the cultivation and improvement of the soil, to provide for the future increase of assets, and to give time for the more accurate and gradual ascertainment of the real value of the lands, without creating diffidence or alarm in the minds of the landholders or cultivators.

With a reference to the appointment of Ameens, your Excellency's objection seems to me to be exactly similar to that which is above described. The object of the appointment of Ameens is to conciliate the minds of the people, who have long suffered from oppression, not surely to give ground for alarm which might create disaffection or commotion; and if disturbance or rebellion in such a case could be reasonably feared, the British troops would be ready to suppress it, and to support the just authority of the Ameens. In short, what I stated to your Excellency at our last interview, with a reference to this point and to every other question of a similar nature, seems to me to be conclusive on the subject, namely, that for the successful progress of the measures of reform, and of every just measure which can form an object of mutual interest to the two States, two things only are required: On the part of your Excellency, a sincere disposition to promote their success; and on the part of the British Government, the exertion of its influence and power in support of your Excellency's authority. The perfect union of these two requisites must overcome every obstacle which can oppose them; nay, must preclude the possibility of opposition.

With regard to the establishment of courts of justice and police, which your Excellency proposes to suspend until the extirpation of every rebel and disaffected person from your dominions; as the British troops have repeatedly, I may say constantly, during the last thirteen or fourteen years, been employed in pursuing, destroying, or expelling every rebel or supposed rebel, whom your Excellency and your Aumils have been pleased to describe as such, it seems difficult to account for the existence of the inclination or means of resistance to the

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authority of courts of justice and police to be constituted in the manner proposed, with the advice of the British government ; but if any such power or disposition do still exist, the British troops are at all times ready to suppress it, to support the just authority of such a police, and the decrees of such courts of justice as those described.

Thirdly. With a reference to the investigation and adjustment of the claims and demands of your Excellency's Government which the British power may be required to enforce, the approved and unobjectionable plan which has been proposed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, by his Lordship's adoption of the contents of my letter to your Excellency under date the 15th of January last (22d zeehijj), namely, the appointment and deputation of Ameens on the part of both governments, or on my part, for the investigation and adjustment of such demands, a measure too which can occasion no diminution whatever of your Excellency's consequence and authority, as already repeatedly explained to you, supersedes any further inquiry, and might, in my judgment, with propriety have superseded the expression in your Excellency's letter to his Lordship, of a wish for further information on a question already so fully and so satisfactorily explained. His Lordship's reply to this part of your Excellency's letter, must inevitably be a reference to what you already know.

Fourthly. On the subject of Moonshee Alee Nuckee's claims, your Excellency has been pleased to observe, that they are of two kinds : one against this Government, and the other against the associates of the claimant. Your Excellency, in the conclusion of this remark, has furnished an obvious answer to what is stated in its commencement. Moonshee Alee Nuckee is at present completely divested of every part of his ancient and rightful possessions in Sandee. If he have no rights in that district, there can be no associates in his rights. The Moonshee has repeatedly submitted to your Excellency, through me, the original sunnuds for his rights, and your Excellency declined to peruse them. Copies of those sunnuds, authenticated by my signature and seal, have been transmitted to your Excellency, and may be referred to at any time in your duftur ; or if you wish it, fresh copies can be made out, attested, and delivered when required. The history of those sunnuds is as follows : some of them bear the seals of chieftains who held the district of Sandee in jagier, before the accession to those dominions of any of your Excellency's ancestors ; others are under the seal of this Government during the administration of the late Asuf-ood-Dowlah. They bear the seals of his minister, Hyder Beg, and of the British Resident of that period, purporting the Moonshee to be in possession of nankar and other privileges from remote times, and prohibiting his molestation in the exercise and enjoyment of those rights, not one of which is now in his possession, though a mandate, under your Excellency's seal, addressed to the Aumil of Sandee, during the residency of the late Colonel Scott, for maintaining the Moonshee in his possessions, and a statement of those possessions under the seal of the deputy Aumil be still extant, and prepared for submission to your Excellency. That no sunnud was obtained during the government of the late Shooja-ood-Dowlah, your Excellency's illustrious father, is accounted for on the obvious ground, that no molestation was ever offered to the possessions of the Moonshee during that period, which might have rendered new sunnuds necessary to support his right, as may be proved in the most satisfactory manner by the *wasil-bākee* or revenue accounts of the district during that time. With respect to the second description of the Moonshee's claims, which your Excellency would refer to the Adawlut, some of them are of a nature, and have already proceeded to a stage, which supersedes any reference to the Adawlut. What purpose, for example, could it answer, to bring before the Adawlut the case of Rushuck Loil, who in his arzee to your Excellency, a copy of which was transmitted to me, has himself acknowledged the Moonshee's right ? or again, with regard to my suggestion of your Excellency's ordering Imteeaz Alee to restore to the grandchildren of Salaam Oolla Chowdree that portion of their rights which is established by law, even admitting the legitimacy of Imteeaz Alee's birth, (which is disputed,) there can be obviously no necessity for a reference to the Adawlut, because the rule

rule of law for inheritance in such cases is known to all. But, with regard to all other claims on the part of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, or of any other dependant of the British Government in Oude, they can never, with a hope of justice, be submitted to your Excellency's Adawlut, until the nature and constitution of that court shall become directly the opposites of what they are, in the manner recommended by the British Government, and repeatedly promised by your Excellency to me. Until such an alteration shall take place, the usual mode of determining all questions and claims on the part of the dependants of the British Government, which has been practised ever since the commencement of the friendship now subsisting between the two States, namely, your Excellency's concurrence with the Resident at your Durbar in an equitable investigation of the claim, must inevitably continue to be observed. Upon the whole, with a reference to the just claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee, it is a matter of surprise and concern, that your Excellency should now have thought it necessary to ask the opinion of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, after the receipt of two letters from his Lordship and the Vice-President on this subject, in support of my representation of the true merits of the case.

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Fifthly. Your Excellency's long and extraordinary statement, with a reference to the superintendence of the khoord muhl and other complaints against her highness the Bhow Begum, in no part of which I can concur, is alike a source of surprise and concern to me. The clamour and disturbance in the khoord muhl are ascribable, in my judgment, solely to the intrigues, in the first instance, of Mirza Shoojaat Alee Khan and others, who are entirely at your Excellency's devotion, and subsequently, as at present, to a conviction in the minds of those ladies, that their conduct is gratifying to your mind. Whenever those intrigues shall be put a stop to, when the conviction above described shall be removed, all clamour and disturbance must cease; and I beg your Excellency to be persuaded, that the sentiment which I have here expressed must be the sentiment of his Lordship in Council, of all the Members of the Government, and of every person of reason and understanding who shall become acquainted with the circumstances of the case. The right of her Highness the Begum to exercise her control over the khoord muhl, and to distribute the stipends of the women of it through a Nazir of her own choice, without any interference on the part of your Excellency, as stated and fully explained in his Lordship's letter to your address, can never be diminished nor affected, in any degree, by the statement in your Excellency's letter, which can answer no good purpose whatever; though to me it must form a source of the greatest surprise and regret, that your Excellency, after yielding to all my suggestions regarding the khoord muhl, after reinstating Tuhseen Alee Khan in his office of Nazir, conferring a khelât on his Naib, writing to that effect to the ladies, and desiring me to communicate this satisfactory information to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, should think it wise or expedient to address his Lordship in the terms of your letter which is before me, and the only effect of which must be to excite his Lordship's displeasure.

Of your Excellency's pecuniary demand against her Highness the Bhow Begum, which is stated in your letter to his Lordship, with the view, I presume, of soliciting his aid in the recovery of that demand, I have no information whatever.

Sixthly. With regard to her Highness the younger Begum, the many frivolous complaints, on points of the most trifling nature, which your Excellency has stated against her Highness, seem to me to be unbecoming in the extreme, and unworthy of your Excellency's mind, while some of them are totally erroneous. Having yesterday passed two complete hours in personal attendance on her Highness, I had the painful opportunity of listening to the detail of her grievances, and of observing the state of her accommodation, which, for your Excellency's sake, I could have wished to suppress, but which I shall now be compelled to report, by way of answer to your Excellency's complaint, and

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and as a justification of her Highness's resolution to quit your Excellency's dominions.

Seventhly. With a reference to your Excellency's observation, that "attention to the interests and consideration for the conditions of those who have a title to the protection of the British Government have ever been deemed to be conducive to the increase of your own reputation, and that if the names and conditions of those who complain of injustice or disregard were known to you, &c." I should find no difficulty in furnishing your Excellency with a numerous list of such persons, in explanation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's remark, though his Lordship's letter in itself contain a few very striking examples; such, for instance, as their Highnesses the two Begums, Mirza Hoosein Alee Khan, Mohummud Tuhscen Alee Khan, and Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, which appear for the present to suffice. To those I might add, if it were necessary, the names of Mirza Cäsem Alee Khan, the widow and only legitimate sons of the late Ashruf Alee Khan, among persons of rank, and Moonshee Hoosein Alee Khan, Pershaud Sing Subadar, and some others, among persons of less consideration. But as it has always been, and is still my earnest and anxious wish, that your Excellency's generous and humane conduct to those persons, and others of a similar description, should hereafter be as generally known, and marked by the whole world, as its opposite has hitherto been, and should tend to strengthen and confirm the relations of amity between the two States, and to promote harmony in every branch of their intercourse with each other; under the influence of this cordial desire, I refrain from enlarging on the subject, and shall merely express my regret, that your Excellency should have introduced into your letter an inquiry which seems calculated to renew with additional grounds, instead of obviating the just grounds of the complaint that is stated in his Lordship's letter to your address.

Eighthly. On the case of Hoosein Alee Khan your Excellency has been pleased to remark, that "you have no knowledge whatever of the allowance alluded to, nor of the correspondence of that period." A complete and satisfactory answer to this remark was submitted at our conference on Tuesday, and can scarcely require to be repeated; but, for the sake of greater precision, I shall now state it in writing. The grant of the allowance in question, immediately after the death of the late Ameer-ood-Dowlah, by the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, is universally known to all ranks and descriptions of persons residing in this city. My information of its having been settled and regularly paid for a number of years is derived as well from the records of this government as of our own, at the period to which I have alluded, and consequently the obligation on your Excellency to continue it, can never be evaded by professing ignorance of the grant. In addition to which, I have recently had occasion to know from a communication from the Persian Secretary to Government, that when the Honourable Henry Wellesley came here for the purpose of promoting the conclusion of the treaty of cession with your Excellency, and discussions regarding the establishment of an efficient police in your Excellency's country arose, the question of the regular payment of the pensions granted by the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah to persons of distinction at Lucknow, was also agitated on that occasion, and the result of those discussions was this: That your Excellency should continue and regularly discharge the whole amount of the pensions which had been granted in your brother's time, as well as your own, and that the demand of our government regarding the police should be given up. But, independently of the above information, the official detail of the proceedings of Marquess Wellesley at Lucknow, and of his personal conferences with your Excellency, is conclusive on the question at issue; for it records your Excellency's promise, not only to continue the payment of the several pensions assigned for the support of your relations and dependants, but to liquidate all the arrears; and as it is abundantly obvious that Hoosein Alee Khan, and the other sons of Hyder Beg, must be comprehended in the number of persons of distinction dependent on your Excellency's government for their support, the delay of Hoosein Alee Khan for a time

time to demand the payment of his pension can, on no principle of justice or humanity, have a tendency to prejudice his right.

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Having thus, from motives of the purest friendship for your Excellency, explained and commented on such passages of your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General as seemed to me to have been unwisely introduced in it, or to require revisal and alteration, I have only to add a request that your Excellency, after maturely deliberating on what I have here written, will be pleased to determine on the expediency of transmitting your letter as it stands, without any further delay, or of recalling it for the purpose of revisal, and of suppressing such parts of its contents as may on reconsideration seem hostile to the spirit of friendship and cordiality, that should ever regulate the discussions between the British Government and your own.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Her Highness the Bhow Begum. (Received the 14th Sept. 1812.)

Letter from the
Bhow Begum.

You are well acquainted with the various acts of violence and oppression committed by the Aumils and Zemindars of my son's government against the people in my jagier, and you have often represented those circumstances, as explained to you by my letters, to my son, but no measures have hitherto been adopted to put a stop to them; and as I suffer a heavy loss from such proceedings, I have been compelled to address the Right Honourable the Governor-General on the subject, and enclose a letter to his Lordship, with a copy of it for your information. You will forward my letter to his Lordship, with such further remarks on your own part as you may deem advisable, with a view to my relief.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 15th Sept. 1812.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I submit, for your Excellency's perusal, a copy of a letter just received from her Highness the Bhow Begum, complaining of the violent and oppressive proceedings of Umur Sing, your Excellency's Aumil of Baraich, in carrying away by force the whole of the produce of the disputed villages and lands in her Highness's district of Gonda, with a copy of an arzee on the same subject from the Zemindar of Bingha, Sheo Sing.

I have already, on several occasions, addressed your Excellency on this subject; and on one occasion, by your Excellency's desire, I pointed out the only mode which occurred to me of adjusting this unhappy dispute, and which your Excellency has been pleased to decline. In addition to this just ground of complaint on the part of her Highness the Begum, the recent atrocities of rapine and murder committed in other portions of her jagier by the subjects of your Excellency's government inhabiting and finding refuge in the khalsa, have been represented to your Excellency in vain, and her Highness has consequently been impelled to address a long letter of complaint on those points to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which she has transmitted to me for despatch.

From motives of genuine friendship for your Excellency, it is my sincere wish, if it be possible, to prevent the transmission of her Highness's letter to his Lordship; and, with this view, I submit that as her Highness's right to the disputed villages in Gonda has been established, in my mind, beyond a doubt, your Excellency should issue your orders to the Aumil of Baraich for his immediate surrender of those villages to Sheo Sing, Zemindar of Bingha, to whom the villages in question belong; or, if a doubt remain in your Excellency's mind of the justice of this measure, and you be desirous of a further investigation of the real merits of the case, that your Excellency concur with her Highness the Begum

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from Resident at
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in referring the final decision of the point at issue to me, the friend and well-wisher of both parties, in which case, I shall depute an Ameen to investigate and report on the subject, and shall communicate my decision to your Excellency, with the least practicable delay.

If your Excellency will be pleased to agree to this proposal, and to promise the exertion of your authority for the redress of the other grievances complained of, I shall cheerfully suspend for a few days the transmission of her Highness's letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in the hope of accompanying the transmission of it with an assurance in behalf of your Excellency, that her Highness's grievances have been redressed. The satisfaction which his Lordship in Council must derive from intelligence so agreeable as this, and so conducive to your Excellency's reputation, will do more than compensate the delay.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you a letter from her Highness the Begum of Fyzabad, to the address of the Right Hon. the Governor-General, which is referred to in my despatch to the Chief Secretary to Government, under date the 18th instant.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th September 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from the
Bhow Begum.

From her Highness the Bhow Begum. (Received the 5th October 1812.)

After presenting compliments and praying for your Lordship's health, I have the pleasure to inform you, that by the divine blessing I am well, and continually occupied in prayer for the agreeable tidings of your Lordship's welfare.

What account shall I give your Lordship of the disordered state of the affairs of my jagier? Many of the Aumils and Zemindars of the lands belonging to my son, the Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan (whose life may God prolong), commit acts of violence and oppression in my jagier, and occasion confusion and disorder in its affairs. Thus the Aumil of Baraitch for two years past has interfered with eighteen villages in the talooka of Bingha, a dependancy of the muhls of Gonda belonging to my jagier, on the plea of a dispute about the respective boundaries of Bingha and Baraitch, and some days ago he carried away the produce of the villages to a large amount, and he extorts sums of money from the Ryots whom he has seized. He has also placed his own people over seven other villages of Bingha. In like manner, two years past, the Zemindars of mouzah Surawan, in the district of Baraitch, have attached about seven hundred begahs of land in mouzah Dhuttolee, situated in zillah Ramaunpore, which belongs to Gonda, under the pretence of its being within the boundaries of their mouzah, and are prepared to take forcible possession of it. Accordingly, a few days ago they began to reap the crops of the lands situated on the frontier of the mouzah of Dhuttolee, upon which the Zemindars of that place resisted the attempt; but the Zemindars of Surawan having come in a large body with the intention of fighting, overcame those of Dhuttolee, seven of whom were killed by swords and fire-arms. The heirs of the slain are now besetting my deorhee, crying out for redress. Twenty days ago the Rajah of Kungole, situated in Baraitch, without any provocation, sent about four hundred matchlock-men into my jagier, when they killed Hunnoomaun Pooree Gossayne, the renter of mouzah Ramaunpore, a dependency of Gonda, and plundered his house of money and goods to the amount of nearly a lac of rupees.

Since last year, the Zemindars of Dhota, in the purgunnah of Dalmow, which belongs to his Excellency, have set up a claim to the lands of mouzah Shah-

Shahzādpore, in purgunnah Saloun, and excite disturbances. The Aumil of Dalmow sent a body of troops into the disputed lands, when they carried off the sons of Adhar Sing, the Zemindar of Shahzādpore, and they still refuse to release them.

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Letter from the
Bhow Begum.

Moreover, in the vicinity of Nawaubgunge, and in the lands of Saloun, which belongs to my jagier, the Darogha of his Excellency's customs, at the desire of his Excellency, has forcibly established a new chowkee for the collection of duties, in consequence of which I have sustained a great pecuniary loss. In like manner, the Aumils of his Excellency's Government have been guilty of violence and oppression in many other villages of my jagier. I have repeatedly written to his Excellency and to the Resident. On his part, he also has made suitable representations to his Excellency, but without effect. The affairs of my jagier are daily falling into more and more confusion and disorder, and in consequence of these oppressive acts on the part of his Excellency's Aumils, the amount of the revenue realized from my jagier falls short of what it formerly was. As the British Government is bound to protect and defend my rights, and as I have every hope of receiving its aid and assistance, in consideration of our long established friendship, I trust that your Lordship will be kindly pleased to issue instructions to the Resident, calculated to restore order to the affairs of my jagier, so that the dispute about the boundaries of Bingha and Baraitch may be settled, the offenders be punished, all questions respecting jagier be adjusted, the plundered property be restored, and the Aumils and Zemindars be strictly enjoined not to commit in future any acts of violence or oppression in my lands, on pain of meeting the punishment due to their offence.

Deserters, also, from my jagier established themselves in the lands belonging to his Excellency, from whence, with the assistance of his Excellency's Zemindars, they come and excite disturbances in my villages. When I write to his Excellency on this subject, he practises evasion and delay, and I am unable to obtain any redress. On this account I sustain a great loss of revenue. I therefore request, that your Lordship will instruct the Resident to direct his attention to this point, and to take measures for the timely redress of such outrages in future. By your Lordship's kindness and favour, the affairs of my jagier will thus be restored to order, security will be afforded to my Ryots, and my mind will be satisfied and set at ease.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 30th ultimo,* conveying the instructions of the Government for my guidance with a reference to her Highness the younger Begum's departure from this country, and her future residence in the district of Elahabad.

2. The Begum quitted her jagier on the day which had been fixed for her departure, as announced in my despatch of the 19th ultimo, and proceeded across the Goomtie to the neighbourhood of Selimpore, about twenty miles from Lucknow, where her Highness halted for several days, at my suggestion, in the hope of receiving a letter from the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in answer to that which announced her resolution to quit the Vizier's country and reside in the Company's dominions.

3. On Thursday, the 19th instant, I paid a visit to her Highness in camp at Selimpore, and in compliance with the apparent wishes and the earnest desire of the Vizier, though with scarcely any hope of success on his or my own part, I renewed my endeavours to bring about a reconciliation between his Excellency and the Begum, and to prevail on her Highness to return to Lucknow, or take up her permanent residence in her jagier.

4. After

* Vide page 320.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. After occupying a considerable time in unavailing exertions and entreaties to the above effect, I deemed it proper to call her Highness's attention to the probability of increasing disturbances in her jagier, in consequence of her retirement from this country, and to suggest to her the necessity of some arrangement, which might ensure to her the means of subsistence during her residence in the Company's dominions.

5. It was her Highness's wish and expectation that I should assume the superintendence, and engage for the protection and support of her servants in the management of her jagier, and in the realization and remittance of its revenue; and on my stating a number of obstacles to, and explaining the impracticability of this measure, her Highness proposed as an alternative, the transfer of her jagier to the Honourable Company, in exchange for a portion of land of equal extent and produce in the Dooab, or on any other terms which the Government might be pleased to prescribe to her.

6. My rejection of this proposal, on grounds which it is unnecessary to state, was followed by a protracted discussion between her Highness the Begum and me, of the arrangement suggested by Government in the Chief Secretary's despatch to my address under date the 11th September, for the commutation of the jagier for a stipend proportioned to its produce, to be regularly paid by the Vizier into the treasury of the Resident at Lucknow; and I have great satisfaction in reporting, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that I succeeded at length in obtaining her Highness the Begum's consent to the arrangement preferred by his Lordship, on the just and reasonable condition of the Vizier's combining with the stipend, or clear revenue of the jagier, the amount of a compensation in money for the provisions hitherto supplied from his Excellency's kitchen for her Highness's daily consumption.

7. A written authority for the final adjustment of the terms of this arrangement with the Vizier, in the name and behalf of the Begum, has been subsequently transmitted to me by her Highness; but I have hitherto delayed to commence the discussion of the subject with the Vizier, for the reason assigned in my despatch of the 15th ultimo to the Chief Secretary to Government, namely, my expectation of receiving a letter for his Excellency from the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which must tend greatly to promote the success of my negotiation, not only on this point, but also on the question which is at issue between the Vizier and the Begum of Fyzabad, namely, the superintendence and control of the khoord muhl.

8. A number of the women of the khoord muhl are still residing in the Emaum Barra, and occasionally clamorous for their stipends, which the Vizier has thought proper to issue to them, indirectly and secretly, with the view of encouraging their unreasonable and improper resistance to the authority of her Highness the Begum, and of the Nazir of her Highness's choice; while her Highness is extremely urgent with me for my support of her authority over the muhl, in terms of the Honourable Company's guarantee, and resolute in her refusal to issue the stipends of the women through any other medium than that of their ancient and respectable Nazir, Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan.

9. I transmit, for the information of the Government, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have addressed to the magistrate of Elahabad, on the subject of her Highness the younger Begum's departure to that district, and

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th November 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To T. Fortescue, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Zillah Elahabad.
Sir :

1. Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, widow of the late Nawaub Vizier, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, having determined, with the sanction of our Government, to depart from the province of Oude and to reside in the Honourable Company's territory, and her Highness having selected the city of Elahabad,

or

or its neighbourhood, as the place of her future residence, I have been directed by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council to correspond on this subject with you, to apprise you of the probable period of the Begum's arrival in your district, and to suggest to you the forms of respect with which her Highness should be treated on her arrival, and during her residence in the town or district of Elahabad.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. The Begum has recently proceeded from her encampment on the bank of the Goomtie, and will probably reach the gath of Papamow on the Ganges, nearly opposite to Elahabad, about the 10th of the ensuing month. Her Highness is attended by an escort of the Honourable Company's troops, under the command of an English officer, Lieutenant Fell of the 10th Regiment, and this officer has been instructed by me to apprise you of the day of her Highness's arrival on the bank of the Ganges, with a view to your directing the supply of boats for her crossing the river, and provisions for her attendants and followers, including the escort, after their entrance into the district of Elahabad.

3. As a mark of respect for her Highness, on the day of her crossing the Ganges into the Honourable Company's territory, I suggest that the principal native officer, or tehsildar of the district, be instructed to attend in her Highness's camp, and to offer to her acceptance a nuzzur on his own part, and a sum of money, not less than a thousand rupees, with a small supply of the usual articles of consumption, such as rice, ghee, doll, goats, fowls, &c. as a *zeafut* on the part of the Government; and that, as soon as may be convenient after the Begum's arrival within your district, or at all events on the morning of her approach to Elahabad, you proceed in person to meet and receive her Highness, and conduct her to the spot which may be selected for her encampment, till a suitable place for her permanent residence can be found.

4. The Begum has understood and expressed her belief, that the house of the late Nawaub Khan-é Aulum, in the town of Elahabad, is the best adapted to the purpose of her accommodation, and that it is either at the disposal of Government, or may be rented on easy terms from the proprietor through the medium of your negotiation. In any of the cases supposed, I recommend that this house be assigned for her Highness's temporary residence; and, further, considering the present infirm and unhappy state of her Highness's health and her mind, I suggest that some well-enclosed garden, or if possible, a convenient garden-house and enclosure in the neighbourhood of the city, be appropriated to her use for a time, with the view of affording her the benefit of occasional changes of air and scene, till the perfect restoration of her health shall admit of the adoption of measures, under her own orders, and at her own charge, for her comfortable permanent establishment.

5. With a reference to the high rank and the truly respectable character of her Highness the Begum, it appears to be superfluous to add, that every possible degree of respectful attention to her wishes, and of consideration for her comfort and ease, should be practised on all occasions by yourself and by those under your authority, while her Highness may reside in your district.

6. The Begum's principal eunuch and minister, Mohummud Nushāt Alee Khan, or a confidential person on his part, will be the usual medium of communication between her Highness and you.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th November 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, and transmitted to the Persian Department, a letter addressed by his Excellency to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, on the subject of her Highness the younger Begum's departure from this country ; in which his Excellency expresses extraordinary concern at her Highness's departure, and ascribes it erroneously, in my opinion, to the evil counsels and the interested designs of a few of her Highness's servants ; inferring, on their parts, a resolution to appropriate to themselves the personal property and wealth of the Begum, in the case of her demise on the journey or soon after her arrival at Elahabad ; an event which his Excellency believes to be probable, and to which he looks forward with no other concern, I apprehend, than as it may affect his personal claims, or his views regarding the succession to her Highness's property.

2. The Begum has been seriously indisposed since she proceeded on her journey from Selimpore, and has halted for several days in the Bow Begum's jagier, where she expected to meet, and has certainly met with much greater attention and kindness than in his Excellency's territory. But my latest accounts from her camp give no reason to apprehend her sudden demise, nor indeed any great protraction of her illness, and his Excellency's alarms upon that score seem to me to be disproportioned to the occasion.

3. With regard, however, to the disposal of her Highness's property after her death, whenever that event may take place, there seems good reason to believe that she has already provided, or will make a provision, for the disposal of it, by bequests during her life-time ; and considering her Highness's situation with a reference to his Excellency the Vizier, as well as the nature, exclusively personal, of her property, with the exception of her jagier, there seems to me to be no doubt of her perfect competency to dispose of it according to the dictates of her inclination.

4. His Excellency the Vizier, in his letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, having referred to and transmitted a copy of a letter to my address, expressive of his anxiety to be reconciled to the Begum and for her Highness's return to Lucknow, I deem it to be my duty to convey to you, for his Lordship in Council's perusal, a translation of the letter in question, with copies and translations of letters and other documents submitted by me to his Excellency, to which that letter is a reply.

5. The Vizier had originally replied to my letters in very different terms from those of the documents which he refers to in his address to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and it was not until I had laboured for several hours at a conference with his Excellency, on the morning of the 18th ultimo, to convince him of the impropriety of the terms of his first letters on this subject, that he agreed to recall those letters, and to substitute one in their stead, according to a draft which I submitted to him, and which is now referred to by his Excellency as the dictates of his own inclination, the genuine sentiments of his mind on the question of the Begum's departure. I transmit, for more particular information, translations of the letters which were recalled.

6. Regarding the claim of her Highness the Begum for the restitution of the lands and houses at Delhi, the unquestionable property of her ancestors, which are now possessed by the Vizier, as his Excellency seems resolved to retain them, and to appropriate the rents of them hereafter, as heretofore, to himself, notwithstanding his original promise to restore them, I see no other more satisfactory nor more effectual mode of the adjustment of this claim, than by referring it to the Resident at Delhi, before whom, if it be necessary, the question may be judicially tried.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 18th November 1812.
13th Zeekaud 1227.)

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2 July 1813.

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received two letters from you, dated the 4th and 12th of Zeekaud (9th and 17th instant), on the subject of the affairs of her Highness the Bhabee Begum.

I have ever been, and am still, extremely concerned at the departure of her Highness from this city, and the thoughts of the difficulties which she must encounter on her journey from the inclemency of the season afflict me in a great degree. I consider her Highness's residence in this city as tending to promote its prosperity, and therefore I most anxiously desire that she may be induced to return, and increase the splendour of Lucknow by residing in it. If her Highness be desirous of a change of scene and air, she is heartily welcome to occupy my garden-house of Nawaubunge, or any other palace or garden of mine for a time; and should she prefer it, the palace of the Golden Dome, which is a very large and spacious building, is entirely at her service as a future residence.

It is the sincere wish of my heart, that her Highness should continue to reside in this city, and to enjoy every degree of ease and comfort which is possible; and I earnestly request that you will use every means in your power, to induce her to return to Lucknow. With regard to the future satisfaction of the Begum, and the fulfilment of all her reasonable wishes and views, no fault shall be committed hereafter on my part: and, with a view to her immediate gratification, I agree to commute the provisions which are cooked and supplied to her Highness by my officers, though it be contrary to the custom of my Government, for a certain allowance of money, according to your desire; and, further, I solemnly promise, if her Highness return to Lucknow, to enlarge, as far as may be practicable, the place of her former residence, never to molest the Beoparies and others attached to her bazar, and to restore, as far as in my power, the good order and tranquillity of her jagier.

After explaining all these circumstances, and conveying those assurances to the Begum, if you deem it advisable and proper, I shall go out myself to Selimpore, repeat to her in person what I have here written, and accompany her back to Lucknow; and if, after all this, she be dissatisfied, and determine to quit my country, it cannot be imputed to me.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 9th November 1812, 4th
Zeekaud 1227.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have the honour of submitting for your Excellency's perusal, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have received from her Highness the Begum, Shums-on-Nissa.

Her Highness, being now firmly resolved to take up her residence in one of the cities in the Honourable Company's territory, will probably march from Pertaubunge in a few days. She has called on me for the settlement of two particular claims which are connected with your Excellency's Government.

1st. The commutation of the provisions hitherto supplied to her Highness from your Excellency's kitchen for a monthly sum of money, agreeably to the adjustment which took place in the time of the late Colonel Scott; and

2d. The restoration of sums collected from her Highness's hereditary possessions in Delhi since your Excellency's accession to the musnud, with a shookha to your Darogha at Delhi, directing the surrender of those possessions to a person whom her Highness may appoint, agreeably to your Excellency's promise, conveyed in a letter to her Highness on a former occasion, a copy of which, with a list of all her possessions, I forward for your Excellency's information.

The

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The justice of her Highness's claim with reference to those two points seems to me to be altogether unquestionable, and will, I doubt not, be admitted by your Excellency; because it is obvious, that no loss can arise to your Government from the commutation of provisions for the money which those provisions have uniformly cost, and because I am satisfied that your Excellency could never wish to derive personal advantage from the possessions of her Highness or her ancestors in Delhi.

Having recently received the orders of Government for the adjustment of all questions relating to the Begum before her departure, I trust that your Excellency will be pleased to communicate your sentiments on the subject of those two claims at your earliest convenience, that I may apprize her Highness the Begum of the result of my application in her behalf, and report the result to the Government before her Highness's departure.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 17th November 1812, 12th Zee-
kaud 1227.)

On Thursday, the 19th instant, it is my intention to proceed to Selimpore to wait on her Highness the Begum, with the view of renewing my endeavours to suspend her Highness's departure, and by assuring her of your Excellency's promise to accede to all her wishes, to pave the way for her return to Lucknow. Yet, I confess, that I have no hope whatever of her Highness's return to this city, unless, indeed, as formerly suggested, your Excellency were to proceed to her encampment, and renew and confirm those assurances which I have hitherto conveyed to her in vain. For the purpose of aiding my own exertions on this occasion, I again solicit and recommend your Excellency's cheerful acquiescence in the two claims of the Begum, which were conveyed to you by my letter of the 4th of Zeekaud (9th November), that I may communicate this result to her Highness.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Extract of a Letter from His Excellency the Vizier to Her Highness the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, dated the 1st of Ramzaun 1215. (17th January 1801.)

I have received your Highness's gracious letter in answer to mine.

With regard to your Highness's complaint regarding the house Mutchee Buhwun, it is very surprising that your Highness should not have at once understood that my promise to give it up to you was merely a respectful mode of refusing; for had I given up Mutchee Buhwun to your Highness, where could I have found a place so spacious as to contain the furniture, &c. that is kept in it? Out of respect I could not flatly refuse your Highness, and therefore I was induced to make a promise.

With a reference to your possessions in Delhi, no one ever reminded me of the matter, and the delay must be ascribed to forgetfulness alone. If your Highness will now be pleased to send a person with a list of those possessions, I will issue a shookha, directing the surrender of them to the person appointed by you to take charge.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

A List

A List of the Possessions of Her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, in Delhi.

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Villages.

Sheikpore,	Budurpore,	Mukunpore,	Kummer-ood-Deen Nuggur,
Noorpore,	Mamoorpore,	Saeer Maharajpore,	Wuzeerpoor,
Noroozpoor,	Janpore,	Mudowleh,	Korekurkur,

Houses.

The houses of Deby Dut and Yakoob Khan.
Ditto of Eatemād-ood-Dowlah Behaudur.
Ditto of Nawaub Aleah Sholapooree Begum, the widow of Kummer-ood-Deen Khan.
Ditto of Moorteza Khan.

Gardens, &c.

The garden of Yakoob Khan.
Ditto of Ithemām Khan.
Ditto of Kazee Ekrām.
Ditto of Kokultash Khan.
Ditto of Chuck Mobaruckpore.
Ditto of Resheed Khan.
Ditto of Milk Dhuka, Chuk Sudoura, Charbag of Eatemād-ood-Dowlah.
Wells at Budrein and Ferozabad.
Some ground within the house of Nawaub Kummer-ood-Deen Khan, on the bank of the river.
Mukbura Moonūwura (Mausoleum) of Kummer-ood-Deen Khan.
The village of Mubdsheer, commonly called Kusbah Burrum.
A garden near the Nullah of Seyed Hummeed Khan.
Fyzbaree, a garden.
Ghoseporeh, ditto.
Retic, a garden.
Mutchee Buhwan and the stables of Dara Shekoh, formerly in the possession of Eatemād-ood-Dowlah Behaudur.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 17th of November 1812,
12th Zeekād 1227.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter, dated the 4th of Zeekād (9th instant), containing a copy of a letter from the Babhee Begum to your address, a copy of my letter to the Begum dated the 1st of Ramzaun 1215, and a list of the possessions of her Highness at Delhi, and requesting my compliance with the wishes of the Begum regarding the provisions supplied to her from my kitchen, and the surrender of her possessions in Delhi.

The degree of her Highness's displeasure against me, and of my wish for a reconciliation, as explained in my letter to the Governor-General, have long been apparent, and in proportion to my sincere desire for a reconciliation, her anger has hitherto increased ; nor is there any appearance of returning cordiality on her part. I have stated my wishes to you on this subject frequently ; and you, too, have explained matters to her Highness, in the manner which you considered the most advisable, but it has hitherto made no impression on her whatever.

The supply of provisions for her Highness's consumption has been, and is now, on the same footing as it was at the time of my arrival in this country. Even after her Highness's retirement to her jagier, her victuals were sent out to her as usual by my orders, and her Highness drove away the Darogha and others from her camp, and took from them the plates, cooking-pots, &c., which she has kept with her. Consider how little respect her Highness has shewn for me on this occasion.

With regard to the commutation of the provisions for a sum of money, I cannot determine till I receive an answer to my letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, dated the 30th of Shabaun (8th September last) : and with a reference to her Highness's possessions in Delhi, as they were in the time of my

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Letter
from the Vizier.

deceased brother under his authority, so they still remain under my authority: I did not resume them from the Begum; and consequently her claim for the restitution by me of possessions which descended to me with the Government can on no principle be admitted.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 17th November 1812, 12th Zeekād 1227.)

I have received your letter of this date, stating your intention of proceeding on Thursday, the 14th of Zeekād (19th instant), to Selimpore, to wait on her Highness the Bhabee Begum, with the view of renewing your endeavours, &c. (recapitulate). Do, by all means, as you propose, and in the manner which may appear most advisable, exhort the Begum to return: it will be very satisfactory to me.

With regard, however, to your assuring her of my promise to accede to all her wishes, &c., the case is this: I do not know what her Highness's wishes are, and consequently I cannot authorize you to promise a compliance with them on my part.

With a reference to your suggestion of the propriety of my proceeding to her Highness's encampment and renewing my assurances, &c. &c., you will recollect, that at our conference on Saturday, when you mentioned to me that the return of her Highness by any means would be agreeable to yourself and highly reputable to me, I answered, that if you thought it advisable I would write a letter to, or wait in person on her Highness, and your reply was that I might do whatever I thought proper; and when I observed further, that there was none besides yourself whom I could consult in such a case, you made no answer to that observation.

My son-in-law, Hoosein-ood-Deen Khan, waited on her Highness by my desire, and implored her to return, but was taken no notice of, nor paid any attention to whatever; I therefore leave you to judge what benefit is to be expected by my going.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To John Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to the Government.

Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting to you a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which is referred to in my despatch of this date to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 12th December 1812.)

After expressing my desire for the pleasure of a personal meeting with your Lordship, which is the chief object of my wishes, I proceed to remind your Lordship that on the last day of Shabaun 1227 Hijeree, corresponding with the 8th September, 1812, I transmitted a letter to the address of your Lordship respecting her Highness Bhabee Begum (Shums-oon-Nissa), which contained an account of the real state of her case, but I have not yet had the pleasure to receive an answer to that communication. As the Begum has, however, lately come to a fixed determination to retire from Lucknow, I herewith forward, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the reply which I returned to two representations which were conveyed to me on that subject by Major Baillie. The circumstances of Major Baillie's interview with the Begum, and the particulars of what passed on that occasion, will doubtless have been fully communicated to you by that gentleman.

My

My Lord, the fact of the matter is this: her Highness, Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, has been induced to leave this city, at the instigation of two or three persons, who will in all probability practice some deception upon her, and in case of her death (which God forbid!) possess themselves of her property and effects. It is with this view that those evil advisers have set her Highness at variance against me, her nephew, her niece, and her late brother's widow. In short, her Highness not returning to Lucknow has been injurious to my reputation, and has occasioned me much inquietude and uneasiness of mind.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

*Translation of a Copy of a Letter under date the 13th of Zeekād (19th November 1812) from his Excellency the Vizier to Major Baillie, in Reply to two Letters from the latter respecting Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, referred to in the foregoing.**

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The letter from his Excellency the Vizier to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, in reply to his Lordship's letter of the 8th of May last, which his Excellency transmitted to me on the 26th of the month of August, and shortly after recalled for the purpose of revisal and amendment, (as announced in my despatch to the Chief Secretary to Government under date the 1st September,) has been returned to me this day by the Vizier, without any alteration whatever, save the omission of those paragraphs which had reference to the question of the superintendence of the khoord muhl, and to the departure of the younger Begum from Lucknow. It is accompanied by an answer to my memorial, under date the 29th of August last, a copy of which was transmitted in my despatch of the 18th of September: a translation of his Excellency's answer, with such remarks as the tenor of it may suggest to me, shall be submitted to the notice of the Government with the least practicable delay.

2. I have had many conferences with the Vizier during the period which he has avowedly occupied in reconsidering the tenor of his letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General's address, and I have laboured at each of those conferences with increasing zeal and assiduity, to convince him of the justice and necessity of his acquiescence in his Lordship's views.

3. The failure of my endeavours is ascribable, in my own judgment, to his Excellency's untoward disposition, to the habitual, I may add, constitutional jealousy and suspicion with which he has ever received propositions of the simplest nature and most beneficial tendency on the part of the British Government, and to the hope of protracting, at least, if not of evading, a compliance with its just views and requisitions, founded on the known reluctance of the Government to urge matters to extremity with him, or to adopt even the language of demand under any circumstances whatever.

4. I have transmitted his Excellency's letter in a despatch of this date to the Secretary in the Persian department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To John Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which is referred to in my despatch of this date to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

From

* This Letter has been already given on page 479.

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—
Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 14th December 1812.)

After expressing my desire for the pleasure of a personal meeting with your Lordship, which is the chief object of my wishes, I proceed to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of the 8th of May last, replete with sentiments of friendship and regard, and stating that you had expected to receive answers to your letter of the 28th of December 1810; and to two letters from the Vice-President, of the 29th of March and 12th of July 1811, the former on the subject of the claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, and the latter in favour of Hoosein Alee Khan, son of the late Hyder Beg Khan. I have fully understood the contents of your Lordship's letter. The suspension and delay which have occurred in the transmission of an answer have been occasioned by the discussions which have taken place between me and Major Baillie. The objections which occurred to my mind during those discussions I stated to the Resident in writing. As those objections have not yet been removed by Major Baillie, and as the execution of the several matters of business which formed the subjects of discussion has consequently remained suspended, from motives of respect and consideration for your Lordship, which I am ever disposed and attentive to observe, I suspended the transmission of my reply to your Lordship's letter. An answer to the letters of the Vice-President was not written, for reasons which are contained in the present letter to your Lordship's address. Now that your Lordship has kindly called me to your recollection, and favoured me with your letter above acknowledged, I consider it to be an indispensable duty to transmit a reply to your Lordship, and I proceed accordingly to state what is necessary to be represented. Under every circumstance, my expectation from the chiefs of the British Government, and especially from so kind a friend as your Lordship, is, that in the affairs of my Government, and in the dominions subject to me, as well as in all my concerns, my power and authority may daily be strengthened and increased, and that, in the spirit of the friendship and amity established of old between the two States, and which is conspicuous to all the world, no manner of loss, injury, detriment, or diminution may take place, and that counsel and advice, such as may be productive of salutary effects, may be afforded to me by the chiefs of the British Government, and more especially by your Lordship.

In your letter of the 28th of December 1810, your Lordship has written with your friendly pen, that by the terms of the sixth article of the treaty of November 1801, I engaged to establish in my reserved dominions such a system of administration, to be carried into effect by my own officers, as should be conducive to the prosperity of my subjects, and be calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants; and further, that with reference to this particular stipulation, the late Governor-General, Marquess Wellesley, in a paper which he delivered to me under his seal and signature, in the year 1802, observed that I had engaged to advise with the British Government, and to conform to its counsels in the establishment of an improved system of administration within the reserved dominions, and also in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of those dominions, and with the usual exercise of my established authority, and so forth. What your Lordship has written as above is right and true, nor is there any denial on my part. The case is this: At a former period I was desirous of sending my son with a detachment of British troops for the settlement of my reserved dominions, and that with the approbation of Major Baillie the Resident, he might establish a system of administration in those dominions. When I consulted the Resident on this point, that gentleman clearly and explicitly signified his prohibition, saying that in an affair of this kind the nomination and deputation of the Sahib Zadah, (that is to say my son,) were not necessary. The establishment of a system of administration was therefore not carried into execution. Your Lordship will decide with justice, that in the introduction and establishment of a system of administration in my dominions, and in advising with the British Government on that subject according to my engagements, I have not failed; and, with respect to the system proposed by your Lordship in your letter above quoted, it was not carried into effect, in consequence of some doubts and objections which occurred to my mind. Those objections were repeatedly stated by me in writing to the Resident, and personally discussed between us. Conformably to the

dictates

dictates of the friendship which I entertain for your Lordship, I now feel it to be an incumbent duty that I should, of necessity, state some of those objections for your consideration. They are as follow. Your Lordship, in your letter above quoted, has written, "that if the assessment of the lands throughout the country should be regulated by the real assets of the several districts, to be ascertained by actual investigation and be fixed for a certain time, and if that assessment should be increased only in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the several districts, which might be expected to arise from an approved system of administration," and so forth. The case is this: that without the actual measurement of the lands of the several mouzahs and villages of the country, and without ascertaining the particular quantity of cultivated lands and lands capable of cultivation, village by village, and the boundaries accurately defined, and unless the Canoongoes, Chowdries, and Putwarries give a detailed statement of all these particulars and conceal nothing, and the Zemindars make no objection to the measurement of their lands, it appears to me that it will be difficult to ascertain the real assets of the several districts. With respect to the deputation of Ameens to ascertain all those particulars, apprehensions occur to me with regard to misconduct on their part, and to emigration and disgust on the part of the cultivators and renters, and to disorder and interruption in the receipt of the revenues, and to failure in the payment of balances in consequence of the introduction of a new system. All these objections will have been made known to your Lordship, by the perusal of the letters which I addressed on this subject to the Resident.

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from the Vizier.

With respect to Major Baillie's representation on the subject of establishing courts of Adwlut and police in the several districts of my dominions under the management of officers of my Government, I am willing to appoint officers to those situations, conformably with the Resident's advice; but the accomplishment of these two objects cannot be contemplated, until every rebel and disaffected person in my territory shall have at once been effectually punished and rooted out of the country; until they find that if they seek an asylum in the British territories they will not be able to maintain themselves there; until they be utterly extirpated, and the troops never desist from pursuing them; and, finally, until they be convinced that there is no place where they can establish themselves secure from the troops of the Government. Thus, in the Honourable Company's dominions, whatever turbulent or disaffected person is proceeded against, until he is effectually punished he does not cease from his evil courses. Moreover, in the police establishment of each individual place, where the people of the establishment, according to the system, can only be few in number, how will they be able to maintain order, when the turbulent and disaffected shall excite disturbance in large bodies.

With reference to your Lordship's observation regarding the right of investigating and arbitrating all such claims and demands on my part and on the part of my Aumils, as the British troops may be required to support, and so forth. Whatever plan your Lordship may be pleased to adopt, for the purpose of investigating and arbitrating all such claims and demands, so that my independent power and authority, as established by treaty, may not thereby be impaired, and my dignity and consequence be not diminished in the slightest degree in the eyes of my subjects, have the goodness to communicate it to me and I am at your command. As I consider your Lordship to be my sincere and affectionate friend; as all my prosperity, welfare, comfort, and happiness, depend on your kindness and favour; and as, excepting the members of the British Government and your Lordship in particular, I know no protector and succourer, if your Lordship, which God forbid, shall be dilatory and forgetful in affording me aid and assistance, and in taking a warm and active interest in the arrangement and settlement of my affairs, know for a certainty, that then, in such an event, the settlement and reform of my government will be difficult to be accomplished by me.

Your Lordship has been pleased to observe, "that it may not have occurred to me that your Lordship's temporary absence from the Presidency produced no change in the authority of the Government," and so forth. My Lord, I who am your well-wisher, and firmly attached to you, entertain the same sentiments of regard and attachment towards you in all circumstances and at all times, equally

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in your presence and absence, when you are near and when you are far distant. Such a thought my imagination is not capable of conceiving. You will be pleased to consider such a representation, by whomsoever it may have been made, to be entirely erroneous. On mature reflection, your Lordship will be satisfied that a charge of the nature alluded to cannot with justice be attached to me.

Your Lordship has written with your friendly pen, that "I should no longer delay " to exert my authority for the redress of the wrongs of which Moonshee Alec " Nuckee Khan has so much reason to complain." I never did nor ever can entertain the idea of sacrificing the rights of any individual. The state of the case is this: The claims of Moonshee Alec Nuckee Khan are of two kinds, one against my government, and the other against his partners and associates. With respect to the first, let the Moonshee produce the original sunnuds in succession, under the seal of my father, the late Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah, and the seal of my brother, the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, for the purpose of substantiating his claim and for my examination. In the event of his proving that the sources of provision stated in those sunnuds have been withheld during my government, I will order them to be restored to him. With respect to the claims which he has against his partners, let him refer them to the court of Adawlut, where they will be decided according to the holy law. On this subject I have stated to your Lordship what appears fit to me; but if it be not deemed so by your Lordship, be pleased to signify your wishes in this affair, that I may carry them into effect.

With reference to what your Lordship has written with your friendly pen, that "you have to regret the uniform disposition on my part to mark with my displeasure all those who are entitled to the protection and favour of the British " Government, and to exhibit the inefficacy of its counsels on points affecting the " honour and interests of my Government," I have to observe, that as I consider my prosperity and welfare to depend on the augmentation of the ties of friendship and union, and on the consolidation of the foundations of unanimity and concord with the British Government, and on the favour and kindness of your Lordship, which hitherto have happily increased from day to day; and as I deem attention to the interests, and consideration for the conditions of those who have a title to the protection of the British Government to be conducive to the increase of my own reputation, how is it possible that I should mark such persons with my displeasure? If your Lordship had been kindly pleased to apprise me of the names and conditions of the persons alluded to, I should have entered into the particulars. How is it possible that I should turn away from the counsel and suggestions of the British Government after discussion and explanation, or that I should act contrary thereto? At every time and every moment I have acted, and continue to act, in conformity to the counsel and advice of the British Government and the Resident. But with respect to a matter of business, the accomplishment of which does not appear to me to be practicable, and on which for my proper understanding of it discussions take place, your Lordship will yourself be pleased to judge how my judgment can be satisfied with respect to it, or the accomplishment of it can be contemplated.

With respect to what your Lordship has written on the subject of my exerting my authority to restrain or punish my officers and Zemindars, who afford protection and assistance to robbers and marauders, and to withhold them from the exaction of duties on merchandize in boats passing up and down in violation of treaty, I assure your Lordship that, conformably to your wishes, I have always been and continue to be ready and disposed to adopt measures for that purpose; nor have I ever been neglectful or remiss in that respect. Accordingly, the seizure of the marauder Budjha Sing has always been and is an object of my attention. If a copy of the letter from Major Baillie to my address, dated the 14th of Rubbee-oos-Sanee 1227 (27th April 1812, A.D.), in reply to my letter of the preceding day, in which Major Baillie expresses his approbation of the measures pursued by me in this affair, and his intention of transmitting it to your Lordship, that you might be apprized of the care and pains which I had taken to effect the seizure of the marauder in question, had been received by your Lordship before the despatch of your Lordship's letter, I am satisfied that you would not have had to express your regret and concern with respect to this point. The most positive orders and injunctions are at all times issued by me to the Aumils on

on this subject, and what power have my Aumils and Zemindars to act contrary to my orders, and to aid and assist robbers and marauders? As it is not the practice of robbers and marauders, with reference to their own evil deeds, to fix their residence permanently in any one place, their detection and seizure must be attended with extreme trouble and difficulty. Thus, on the 6th of April last, Captain MacPherson proceeded with a detachment of British troops with the utmost secrecy and caution to the village of Jheona, in my dominions, and surrounded it; but after great and diligent search after Budjha Sing, was unable to find him. On the 4th of Jemmadee-oos-Sanee (14th June 1812, A.D.), several English officers stationed at Bheela Gaut set out with a body of horse and telingas (infantry) to surprise a band of robbers at Mulpoor, near Umree, a dependency of Pertaubghur, when, after long and diligent search, they succeeded in apprehending only one person, named Sheo Dut. None of the other robbers and marauders could be found. Adverting, therefore, to the nature and habits of those who lead a predatory life, I am persuaded that your Lordship will not impute the want of success in apprehending and punishing them to any deficiency of exertion or zeal on the part of the Aumils. Your Lordship will also be pleased to reflect, that many turbulent and disaffected persons who have left my territories and taken up their residence within the Company's dominions, from whence, when opportunity offers, they make incursions into my country for the purpose of plunder, escape being apprehended and punished, notwithstanding the orders of the Resident and the most active exertions by the Magistrates of the districts. With regard to the exaction of the duties on merchandize, I have at all times prohibited and continue to prohibit such practices; and your Lordship will be apprized by the Resident's communication, of the measures which I have lately adopted for that purpose.

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from the Vizier.

On the subject of the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, son of Hyder Beg Khan, your Lordship has written, that you have little to add to the just and forcible observations contained in the Vice-President's letter to my address of the 12th of July 1811. The state of the case is this: His Excellency the Vice-President wrote to me on the subject of compelling Akbur Alee Khan to make over to his brother, Hoosein Alee Khan, his just share of their family property, and of restoring a certain allowance for the support of the latter. I have no knowledge whatever of the grant of the allowance alluded to, or of the correspondence of that period. At a former time, when Hoosein Alee Khan rented from my Government the lands of Sundeela and Mulleehabad, on his being turned out of those lands he paid the balances due to my Government, partly by borrowing money from the late Almas Alee Khan, and partly by raising it in whatever manner he could, but he never stated any claim of right to an allowance, nor did his elder brother Akbur Alee Khan make any claim. When the late Colonel Scott was Resident at my court, no mention was ever made of the allowance alluded to; and at the time of Lord Teignmouth's visit to Lucknow, when the treaty was concluded between the two Governments, on which occasion the stipends of many persons were confirmed and of some augmented, and all points of business were settled and adjusted, I heard nothing of the allowance in question. In like manner, not a word was said about it in Lord Wellesley's time, and no mention was made of it during the negotiation of the treaty. On various occasions I have accommodated Hoosein Alee Khan with loans of money on his application for that purpose, sometimes of my own accord, and at other times at the instance of the Resident. But if the Khan had had any knowledge of the provision in question, he would have made an application to me for its restoration. I must be excused, therefore, in not having granted that allowance. With respect to giving Hoosein Alee Khan his share of the family property, his brother Akbur Alee Khan is still confined under a guard of British troops, and Hoosein Alee Khan may take it from his brother in whatever manner he can; or let him point out where his father's property is, that it may be given to him. The Resident having some time since repeatedly requested my permission for Hoosein Alee Khan's taking possession of some gardens and houses belonging to his late father Hyder Beg Khan I signified my consent, and the Khan is accordingly busy in digging and selling them, without fixing or specifying what his share is. As I am ready and willing to adopt any measures by which Hoosein Alee Khan may obtain his just share of the property, whatever your Lordship shall be pleased to

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to dictate with respect to causing Akber Alee Khan to give up his brother's share, I will act accordingly.

As I swerve not from the path of compliance with your Lordship's wishes, if, besides this, there be any thing else which your Lordship is desirous of being done for Hoosein Alee Khan, I am ready to do it to the extent of my ability.

As my ease, comfort, security, tranquillity, my power and authority in the regulation and administration of the affairs of my country, and the welfare and prosperity of my Government, all depend on the favour and kindness of your Lordship, I entertain a confident persuasion, that by your kind care and attention the foundations of my Government will daily be more and more strengthened and consolidated. The execution and accomplishment of all matters connected with my Government, the interests of which are identified with those of the British Government, entirely depend on the favour and regard with which your Lordship may be pleased to consider them.

If your Lordship will be graciously pleased to consider me to be entirely at your disposal, and, abstaining from all discussions, will kindly devote your time and attention to the promotion of my dignity and authority, all points will be happily arranged and accomplished. The sole wish of my heart is, that being enabled by your Lordship's kindness and favour to pass the few days which may remain to me of this precarious existence in the possession of honour, dignity, authority, and affluence, I may employ myself in expressing my sense of gratitude and obligation to your Lordship; for in this transitory world I have no kind friend or protector to succour and assist me, save yourself. But should any question be agitated, God forbid that I should think it proper to dispute a single point of what your Lordship may propose; nor will I ever do so. My hopes and expectations are, that your Lordship, in the spirit of sincere and cordial friendship and affection, will watch over my interests at all times, and never for a moment be neglectful of them.

May the days of your Lordship's prosperity and happiness be perpetual.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, a copy and translation of the statement received from his Excellency the Vizier with his letter to the Governor-General, and intended as an answer to the memorial which I submitted to his Excellency on the 29th of August last.

2. In this statement his Excellency sets out with an indirect disavowal of any proposition for the appointment of one of his sons to superintend the collection of his revenue before my arrival at his Court. He calls upon me to detail to him what occurred on that subject before my arrival at Lucknow, and he declares his recollection of a proposal, not previous but subsequent to my arrival, which was suspended in consequence of my disapproving it.

3. The Vizier's letter to Colonel Collins, dated the 17th of Zeebije 1221, submitted to Government in Colonel Collins's despatch of the 7th of March 1807, and the instructions of the Government to Colonel Collins dated the 19th of that month, serve to demonstrate the truth of the remark in my memorial, which his Excellency has thought proper to disavow, and to prove that neither his original proposal to Colonel Collins for the deputation of one of his sons, nor the renewal of that proposal to me, could have been accompanied by any plan of a settlement or system of assessment of his revenues, the disapprobation or rejection of which by the British Government could have served to exonerate his Excellency from the express obligation of the treaty which gave rise to the question of reform.

4. His

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Lucknow.

4. His Excellency's next observation regarding the necessity of an actual measurement of all the lands in his dominions, and of the removal of all his imaginary doubts before any reform of his administration can commence, seems totally unworthy of notice, and is of a piece with the following remark:—"That courts of justice and police must be unavailing, till the extirpation of all disaffected persons from Oude." To the first observation it might be answered, if further answer were requisite, that measurement, in as far as may be necessary, is a branch of the improved system proposed, and that the adoption and exercise of this system must gradually produce the information which measurement is calculated to afford. To the second remark it might be answered, in the spirit and character of the remark, that under the present system of the Vizier's Government, the disaffected persons in Oude must be another name for its population, and that his Excellency would seem inclined to suspend the dispensation of justice to his people till his people shall be totally extinct.

5. His Excellency's objection to the appointment of Ameen upon my part, and his desire that the Governor-General should devise some other arrangement, for the investigation of his demands against landholders, whom our troops may be required to coerce, are obviously frivolous and evasive. The usual tenor of the instructions issued to officers in command of detachments employed against his Excellency's landholders, has uniformly prescribed their investigation of the Aumils' demands, and their attention to the complaints of the landholders, and if the Vizier could not reasonably object to those instructions being issued to our officers, there seems no plausible ground for his objection to the measure which is now proposed, exactly similar in its nature, though more effectual in its exercise than the former.

6. With a reference to the just and established claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan to his nankar and zemindaree rights in the district of Sandee, which the Vizier has been pleased to compare with his own disputed right to an extension of the limits of his rumna, involving in this comparison a parallel between his Excellency's Adawlut at Lucknow and the British courts of justice at Benares, it seems necessary merely to state, that the Moonshee's claims have been already established by the exhibition of attested copies of sunnuds which his Excellency has received but refused to compare with the originals, thus admitting the authenticity of the copies, and further, by the unmolested possession of the Moonshee and his ancestors during a period of several ages; and with regard to the Moonshee's disputes with the subjects of this Government, which his Excellency would refer to the Adawlut of Lucknow, that the Moonshee, in common with every other dependant of the British Government in Oude, will gladly submit his case to the Adawlut, on the indispensable and hitherto admitted condition of the proceedings of the Adawlut in such cases being subject to the Resident's revision, or of their being public, and regulated by the principles and practice of every well-constituted court of justice in the world, in opposition to the Adawlut of Lucknow, whose proceedings are notoriously guided by the private orders of the sovereign, and its decrees the dictates of his will.

7. His Excellency proceeds in his statement to refute the complaint of his unkindness and want of consideration towards the dependants of the British Government, by retorting an accusation of those persons who are mentioned in my memorial, and first of their Highnesses the Begums.

8. A complete and satisfactory reply to his Excellency's statement, as regarding the elder Begum, will be found in her Highness's letter to my address under date the 9th ultimo, a translation of which is enclosed, and a copy of which has been submitted to the Vizier. In this letter her Highness conveys a list of her grievances, and in the genuine spirit of a firm reliance on the justice and impartiality of the British Government, which she justly considers as by treaty alike the guardian and guarantee of her own and her son's rights. She calls on the Government to investigate and decide upon all the matters in dispute, and binds herself to abide by its decision.

9. I deem it to be my duty to submit on this occasion, for the serious consideration of the Government, whether or not we be bound, by the spirit and letter of our engagements with his Excellency the Vizier and with the Begum, to accede

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to her Highness's proposal, to arbitrate all the questions in dispute, and to enforce the execution of our decision by placing her Highness's officers in possession of whatever may be proved to be her right.

10. The question of the younger Begum's departure from Lucknow, and all the circumstances attending or connected with it, are so fully before the Government as to supersede any further remarks.

11. Hoosein Alee Khan and Tuhseen Alee Khan are notoriously the victims of his Excellency's displeasure and resentment. The former is absolutely starving, and the latter, though still in the possession of a small jagier, the grant of the former Government, has been successively deprived of every lucrative and respectable employment which he held at the time of the Vizier's accession to the musnud.

12. The just claim of the Nawaub Casem Alee Khan for the full amount of his monthly stipend, as stated in Lord Teignmouth's letter to the Resident at Lucknow dated the 28th of January 1798, a considerable portion of which is now withheld by the Vizier, has been long under the consideration of the Government, and a letter from his Excellency to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, containing many of the frivolous complaints which are now exhibited against Casem Alee Khan, was transmitted to the Persian department in my despatch of the 28th of September 1809. A satisfactory answer to most if not all of those complaints may be seen in my letters to your predecessor, dated the 28th of July and 28th of September 1809.

13. The charge of violence committed by the servants of Casem Alee Khan against a woman named Luchmee is erroneous in the extreme. Luchmee is one of Casem Alee Khan's wives, who, in consequence of some trifling domestic dispute, thought proper to quit her habitation, and was brought back to it with some trouble and persuasion by the children and servants of Casem Alee. She has since been reconciled to, and is living in peace with, her husband.

14. In reply to his Excellency's observation regarding the widow and legitimate children of the late Ashruf Alee Khan, it appears to be sufficient to state, and is worthy of particular notice, that the arrears of the stipend of this family for a period of seven months were issued from his Excellency's treasury, in consequence of my repeated and earnest remonstrances, on the *day before* this statement was received. It is a common practice with his Excellency to occasion and maintain a voluminous correspondence or a verbal discussion during months, for the purpose of evading a compliance with some simple proposition or some just requisition on my part, and when at length compelled to acquiesce by my temperate perseverance in the discussion, to take an early opportunity of boasting of his cheerful acquiescence in my views, his ready dispensation of justice to the person whose claim I may recommend to him. The present is an instance in point of the characteristic feature which I describe, and of which numerous instances might be quoted.

15. With reference to the two remaining persons who are mentioned in his Excellency's statement, I shall merely notice in reply, that the claims, or rather the complaints of oppression committed by his Excellency's servants, which were preferred by Moonshee Hoosein Alee about four years ago, seem now to be as far from adjustment or redress as they were on the first day of their being heard, and that the boasted favour and partiality of the Vizier towards Pershaud Sing Soubadar, have been such as to induce this superannuated officer, after a fruitless attendance of nearly four years in Lucknow, to quit the place and his pretensions to his zemindaree for ever.

16. The argumentative part of the case of Hoosein Alee Khan appears, to my judgment, to be exhausted in my despatch of the 31st of August.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th December 1812.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Statement

Statement of His Excellency the Vizier. Received the 5th of December 1812, accompanying his Letter to the Address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and intended as an Answer to the Resident's Memorial transmitted on the 29th of September.

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You have stated that the project of deputing one of my sons with a British force for the settlement of the country was agitated before your arrival at Lucknow, &c. If so, do you now state to me in detail what passed upon the subject before your time, and the grounds of the suspension of the measure on that occasion, as they are known to you. I certainly remember an occasion of the discussion of a plan for the settlement of my country with the advice of the British Government, by deputing one of my sons attended by a British force, long before your suggestion or the Governor-General's proposal of the present system, and the suspension of the plan which I proposed. If you do not remember that discussion, I am helpless.

You observe that the jumma bundee, or settlement of my dominions by a fair standard of assessment for a fixed period of years, can be well and easily accomplished without immediate measurement of the lands. The fact is this: that the adoption of the new system was originally made dependent on the measurement of the lands and the removal of my doubts, and in your draft of instructions to Ameens, measurement is also mentioned, and therefore as the employment of Ameens was suspended in consequence of my doubts not being removed, I have stated in my letter to the Governor-General the difficulty or impossibility of the adoption of the system proposed for the reasons abovementioned.

With a reference to your remark regarding courts of justice and police, the state of the case is: what I have written to the Governor-General is perfectly unquestionable, viz., that until the total extirpation of all disaffected persons, as has taken place in the Company's dominions, courts of justice and police are totally unavailing.

With regard to your description of an approved and unobjectionable plan for the investigation and adjustment of all claims and demands by my Government, &c. As I am satisfied that the adoption of this plan would occasion a decrease of my power and authority, I have, therefore, knowingly and wilfully requested the Governor-General to devise and propose to me some other plan, which may not occasion this diminution of my authority.

In reply to your observations on the case of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, the case is this: I have stated in my letter to the Governor-General the only mode which I approve of adjusting the Moonshee's claims, and if you approve of that mode it shall be followed. That the minute investigation of such claims as this is indispensable you must allow, because you know that, with regard to my own personal property, viz., my rumna in Benares, although I have a sunnud fixing its limits under the seal of the late Mr. Duncan, still your Government considered the investigation of my right to it as indispensable, which appears, indeed, from a translation of Mr. Edmonstone's letter which you sent to me; and, therefore, if I insist on the investigation of the Moonshee's claims and those of his partners, who are all the subjects of my Government, what objection can be proposed?

You observe that you could easily furnish me with a numerous list of such persons as are referred to in the Governor-General's letter, &c. My letter to the Governor-General dated the last day of Shabaun (8th of September), on the subject of the two Begums, has already been transmitted through you. I know not what I have done to evince my displeasure with their Highnesses; but I know that both of them have recently done many things regarding me that were never done by them before, even to the extent of neglecting the ordinary observances of friendship, such as sending charitable donations and messages of inquiry after my health, which I have frequently complained of to you. A number of the Zemindars of the elder Begum's jagier are constantly disputing and fighting with and plundering and murdering the Zemindars of the Khalsa, and her Highness takes no measures to prevent them, as you must have seen by a paper of

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of intelligence dated the 15th of Ramzaun, which I sent to you on the 17th of that month. Formerly I had a servant named Bauker Beg Khan in Fyzabad, and then none of the Begum's servants were guilty of any irregularities; whereas now every species of impropriety is committed, and even my servants are treated with indignity by her Highness's people, and the settlement of disputes among the inhabitants of Fyzabad, which formerly belonged to the Government, is now with her Highness's servants, who make no reference to me. Further, her Highness has appropriated the revenue of Luwana and Buteye, and has taken possession of many other places belonging to the Khalsa. Are all these matters of my doing or hers?

With regard, again, to the younger Begum, her unkindness and disrespect towards me are apparent from the contents of her letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

To Hoosein Alee Khan, I have repeatedly given sums of money of my own accord, and by your recommendation; and although the inheritance of his father has never been divided, nor has he established his claim to any part of it, I have put him in possession of several houses, the materials of which he has sold, and appropriated the proceeds to himself.

Tuhseen Alee Khan I have never molested in the smallest degree. On the contrary, I have given him a jagier, on the produce of which he lives in happiness and ease.

My desire to investigate the claims of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan is no proof of my displeasure against that person. The allowance of Casim Alee Khan is regularly paid to him at your desire, and every other object of his which you recommend to me is accomplished. His attendance at Court is dispensed with, and I have long ceased to complain of him to you; yet you are acquainted with his former misbehaviour, and recently, as you yourself must remember, his people had the audacity to lay violent hands on a woman called Luchmee, whom they carried to his house, after robbing her of property, and I made no complaint on the subject from my regard for you. In the time of Colonel Collins, Casim Alee once delayed to accompany me on my hunting excursion, for which neglect the Colonel made him pay me a fine of 5000 rupees; but now, for what reason I know not, he presumes to do what he pleases. With regard to the widow and legitimate children of Shurf Alee Khan, whom you mention, I have done no injustice whatever. On the Khan's death I gave khelats to all the members of the family, and did every thing necessary to console them, as you acknowledged, when you gave them khelats on the part of the Governor-General without my previous knowledge, using a proverb on the occasion, to indicate that your own kindness towards them was merely the consequence of mine. I have not assumed nor confiscated any part of the property of the family, nor even accepted their proffered nuzzurs. The widow and children are in possession of all the wealth and effects, living in affluence and ease; while the eldest son, and many of the subordinate women, are starving and objects of compassion. How, then, is my displeasure with the widow and children to be established? You may ask herself, and she will acknowledge the many salutary advices which I have given to her.

Regarding the adjustment of the claims of Moonshee Hoosein Alee, you refuse to refer them to the Adawlut now existing in Lucknow, and therefore the adjustment must be delayed till another Adawlut is established.

Pershaud Sing Soubadar, who never had possession of his Zemindaree for a period of forty years, preferred a claim for it through you; and though he had never been attended to in my late brother's time nor in the days of any former Resident, I consented to hear his claim at your request, and gave orders that justice should be done to him: thus extending my favour, instead of evincing my displeasure towards him.

You have stated, with a reference to Hoosein Alee Khan, that "the grant of the allowance in question, after the death of Ameer-ood-Dowlah, by the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, is universally known to all ranks of people, and proved to you by your own records and mine, in addition to which, &c." The

case

case is this : I have no knowledge whatever of such a grant : and at the period of the Honourable Mr. Wellesley's visit to this place, on the 7th of the month of Jemadec-oos-Sanee, 1216 Hijery, corresponding with Monday the 16th of October 1801, when it was agreed that all the pensions of my brother's time and my own should be regularly paid, if any such pension as that in question had then existed it must have been mentioned, and like the others have been regularly paid, which is a proof that no such pension did exist at the time referred to.

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The
Vizier's Statement.

In reply to your observation, that it is abundantly obvious that Hoosein Alee Khan must be comprehended in the number of persons of distinction dependent on my Government, I have already stated enough on that subject, and the rights of all the other persons of distinction are dependent on certain conditions which are stated in Mr. Wellesley's letter to me.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Her Highness the Bhow Begum. (Received the 9th November 1812,
4th Zekaud 1227.)

Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

I have received your letter of the 24th of Shuvval (31st ultimo), with copies of two letters addressed by you to my son, Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan, regarding the villages of Bingha, and a copy of my son's answer to those letters.

From a perusal of the above documents, it appears that you have represented every matter in its true light, and without the least partiality or favour, but that my son has no wish to bring the matters to a fair adjustment. What loss, indeed, does my son sustain by delaying the settlement of those affairs. By the improper and oppressive conduct of the Aumils of the Khalsa during the last three years, a great part of the revenues of my jagier has been lost, and this loss must continue to increase till a decision be obtained on all the questions that are at issue. With this view, I now express my readiness to abide by any decision which you may pass on the several questions that are depending between me and my son, because I know that your decision will be just. There is evidently no other mode for the satisfactory adjustment of those affairs, than that you should appoint an Ameen on your own part to proceed to Bingha and Baraitch, ascertain the real circumstances of the disputed lands, and report to you on the subject ; that after receiving the report of the Ameen you pronounce your decision according to justice, and that I and my son become bound to abide by your decision.

But, in addition to the above question, there are many other matters in dispute which require a speedy adjustment, and the settlement of which seems impracticable by any other mode than the above. You formerly wrote to me for a statement of all the remaining questions, for the purpose of having them decided.

I now enclose the statement which you required ; and, with a view to the speedy and satisfactory adjustment of every remaining question, I propose that you appoint an Ameen on your own part, to ascertain in a proper manner the whole of the circumstances of the case, and report the same to you for your decision ; and whatever your decision may be, I hereby promise to accede to it. If my son consent to this measure it is well ; but otherwise, I desire that you address the Right Honourable the Governor-General on this subject, and forward the letter which I formerly transmitted to you to his Lordship's address, and obtain the orders of Government to settle the affairs in dispute in a just and impartial manner, and to enforce your equitable decision in all cases which may be hereafter referred to you.

Statement of Questions and Grievances which required to be adjusted and redressed, to the end of Shuvval 1227. (5th of November 1812.)

First. It is upwards of three years since the Aumil of Baraitch, contrary to established usage, seized upon certain villages of Bingha attached to the muhl of Gonda in my jagier, and he has this year made a collection of revenue from

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Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

those villages. Let this question be equitably decided, and the money collected by the Aumil of Baraitch be restored.

Second. The Zemindars of Dhoma, in the pergunnah of Dalmow belonging to the khalsa, some time ago preferred a groundless claim to some lands in the village of Shazadpoor, pergunnah Salone in my jagier, and afterwards took violent possession of those lands, contrary to established custom, with the assistance of an Ameen and a military force deputed from the Khalsa. The Zemindars of Shazadpoor are willing to refer the matter to arbitration, to which the Zemindars of Dhoma will not agree, but keep forcible possession of the lands. Let an Ameen be appointed to investigate this business and an equitable settlement be made. Further, about a year ago, Pirthee the son of Idhar, and his nephews, with a Brahmin, were forcibly carried away by Luchmun Pershaud Ameen, who still retains them in confinement. The immediate release of those persons is required, as the affairs of the village of Shazadpoor are in confusion owing to their absence from it.

Third. About three months ago, Rajah Gungole of Baraitch sent three hundred decoits, matchlockmen, to the house of Hunoomanpooree Goshain, in the village of Ramanpore in Gonda, killed the Goshain, and plundered property belonging to him, to the amount of nearly a lac of rupees. Hurlollpooree, the Chela of Hunoomanpooree, is now at my threshold seeking redress. Let the Rajah be punished for the murder, and the property plundered be restored.

Fourth. About eight hundred Beegahs of land in the village of Dhonee or Dhunoulee, in Gonda, nankar of the widow of Doorga Pershaud deceased, and belonging to my jagier, have been sequestered by Becheloll Moostajer (farmer), Gholam and Byjnauth Tewaree, Zemindars of Surawan, in pergunnah Gwaritch, sircar Baraitch, who now wish to keep possession of it forcibly; and Ummur Sing, Aumil of Baraitch, from unjust partiality to the above moostajer, has confined Bukht Bully and Umrit Sing, Zemindars of Dunowlee. Several shookhas have been issued directing their release, but they have not yet been set at liberty; and, in consequence of their confinement, a loss of revenue is sustained by me. Exclusive of the above, and on a very recent occasion, when the Zemindars and Assamees of Dhunowlee went to Poorwa-puranapore to till and sow their lands, the Zemindars of Surawan, about three hundred armed men, collected together and killed Nepal Sing, Ram Sing, Bukhtawur Sing, Bhola Sing, Bilkur Sing, Dirgpaul Sing, and Joga Sing, in all seven persons, Zemindars of Dhunowlee. The heirs of the slain are constantly complaining, and nothing has yet been done to grant them redress. The remaining Zemindars of Dhunowlee, agreeably to my orders, have hitherto refrained from retaliating. Let orders be issued to the Aumil of Baraitch for the release of Bukht Bully and Umrit Sing. Let the Zemindars of Surawan be punished for the murders which they have committed, and let the dispute regarding the lands between Dhunowlee and Surawan be settled, through the medium of an Ameen.

Fifth. The women of the khoord muhl are still at Lucknow. Speak to my son on this subject, that he may allow the women to return to Fyzabad, and live in comfort as heretofore; and let those who have enticed the women be punished, that no one may hereafter presume to act in this manner. This will add to my son's reputation.

Sixth. A number of petitions have been presented to me by the ladies of the muhl of my late brothers, Mirza Alee Khan and Mirza Salar Jung, setting forth the hardships they endure. You should exert yourself in such a manner in their behalf as to ensure the regular payment of their stipends as heretofore, and that the allowances of persons deceased be continued to their children, otherwise a number of them must starve. It was ever the custom of this Government to continue the stipends of deceased persons to their heirs.

Seventh. The disorder and confusion which prevail in the villages and Saer Chowkies of Ismaelgunge in my jagier, have been frequently stated to you, and are now explained under distinct heads, as follows: Let an Ameen be appointed to investigate this business also, and a just decision be passed.

First.

First. About four years ago Buhwan Sing, Zemindar of Buhwareh, belonging to the Khalsa, placed chowkies at the villages of Meida and Bhodunpore, which reach to Kukraghat on the bank of the Goomtee, and which were formerly attached to Ismaelgunge. This person has ever since made collections at those stations, contrary to custom and right.

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Letter from
the Bhow Begum.

Second. The same person, about three years ago, took forcible possession of, and has since possessed some lands in the village of Ghona, which formerly were attached to the low lands of the Jheel of Mobarukbagh. My Tehsildar is now completely dispossessed of the lands in question.

Third. The above person becoming this year still more daring and insolent under the idea that no notice would be taken of his conduct, has committed a fresh act of oppression, by seizing the Singhara and fish of the Jheels of Chenut and Mobaruck-bagh, which since the establishment of Ismaelgunge had ever belonged to it. The Tehsildar of Ismaelgunge is now prevented from disposing of the Singhara and fish, by the violence of Buhwan Sing, who will not allow the purchasers to carry them away.

Fourth. Tiluck Sing zemindar and farmer of Ismaelgunge, from whom a large sum of money is due to the Sirkar, has fled and taken refuge with his family at Kujowr Gawn, in Nawaubgunge. Let orders be issued to the Aumil of Nawaubgunge to apprehend Tiluck Sing, and deliver him over to the Tehsildar of Ismaelgunge.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In further continuation of the subject of my despatch to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, under date the 26th ultimo, I have now the satisfaction of reporting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, that his Excellency the Vizier has been pleased this day, in compliance with my repeated and earnest desire, to issue his mandate to his Excellency's Aumil of Baraitch for the immediate restitution to the officers of her Highness the Bhow Begum of nineteen disputed villages of her jaidad, in the district of Gonda, which had been usurped from her Highness by that Aumil, and regarding which a vexatious discussion had been pending between his Excellency and me for a period of three years. A copy and translation of my last letter on this subject to the Vizier are transmitted for the notice of the Government.

2. The final adjustment and satisfaction of her Highness the younger Begum's principal claims on the Vizier have been prevented hitherto, chiefly by the dilatory conduct of the officers of her Highness's jagier, who have delayed to attend at Lucknow for the purpose of confirming their statement of the revenue ; but I have no reason to apprehend a deviation on the part of the Vizier from the promise which his Excellency conveyed to me on this subject in his letter of the 25th ultimo.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th May 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written 13th May 1813.)

The points in dispute between her Highness the Bhow Begum and your Excellency are so various and so complicated in their nature, that a distinct statement of the merits of each separately seems indispensable to their satisfactory adjustment ; and I shall adopt this method accordingly, beginning with the disputed right to a number of the villages of Bhiuga, in her Highness's jaidad.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A copy

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

A copy of your Excellency's letter, dated the 4th of last month, having been forwarded to her Highness the Begum, with a request that her Highness would be pleased to furnish me with a list of all the villages of the jaidad, including a detailed statement of their revenue, I have recently had an answer from her Highness, with the required list, copies of which are now submitted for your Excellency's perusal and inspection. The only sunnud which the Begum possesses for her jaidad would seem to be that important instrument under your Excellency's seal, and the signature of the Governor-General, Lord Teignmouth, which has of late been so frequently referred to, and formed the subject of protracted discussion between your Excellency and me.

This instrument contains no list whatever of the villages composing the jaidad; but a list of them which was obtained in the year 1204 fusly from the then Aumil of the district, Rajah Newaz Sing, by whom they were made over by your Excellency's commands to the Begum, is in my opinion equally authentic, alike demonstrative of the question of right to those villages, and is now submitted for inspection.

From the date abovementioned, it is proved that every one of the villages in question remained in the possession of the Begum and her Highness's officers, without any molestation or even claim on the part of the Aumil of Baraitch, or of any of the Zemindars or Talookadars of that district, till the commencement of the present discussion, occasioned by the manifestly improper conduct of Balick Ram and his son, in wresting by violence from the possession of the Zemindar of Bhingha no less than nineteen of his villages included in the original list of the jaidad, with the intention, not even concealed, of adding those villages to the khalsa, and paying their revenue to your Excellency, as is proved by the statement of an Ameen deputed by your Excellency to investigate and report upon the merits of this case. I have ever considered the report of that Ameen as decisive of the question at issue of the villages in dispute being a part of the zemindaree of Bingha, and consequently of her Highness the Begum's undoubted right to those villages.

Under the influence of this conviction, I now transmit to your Excellency a particular statement of the villages usurped by the Aumil of Baraitch, and I trust that your Excellency will be pleased, without any further delay, to issue your mandate to Umer Sing, for the immediate surrender of those villages to the officers of her Highness the Begum. When the purpose of this just requisition shall be accomplished, I shall proceed to consider and decide upon the other matters in dispute; and after a minute and impartial investigation of all the circumstances of each, I shall submit my opinion to your Excellency, in the confident expectation of its being approved, and of your Excellency's cheerful acquiescence in my judgment, conformably with your promise to this effect and with the desire of the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

P. S. The draft of this letter had been sent to the office to be copied, when I had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of this date; and I shall here offer a brief reply to such parts of it as have not been anticipated above.

Her Highness the Begum has not furnished me hitherto with any statement of the revenue of the several villages of Bhingha, nor of any portion of the jaidad, nor do I consider such a statement to be necessary. The dispute between her Highness and your Excellency relates exclusively to the number and names of the villages, and has no reference to their revenue. To every identical village which was delivered over by Rajah Newaz Sing your Excellency's Aumil of Baraitch, in the year 1204 fusly, to the person appointed by the Begum to receive charge of the jaidad, her Highness has now an exclusive and unquestionable right, whether the revenue be increased tenfold or diminished in that proportion; unless, indeed, your Excellency should be pleased to maintain that a positive provision exists for the restitution of the toufeer, or surplus revenue of

of the jaidad by the Begum into your Excellency's treasury, which has never hitherto been asserted, and is, in my opinion, contrary to the fact.

With a reference to all the other matters in dispute between your Excellency and her Highness the Begum, and particularly to your Excellency's claims against her Highness, I have already submitted to your Excellency that my judgment has not been formed; and foreseeing a great deal of difficulty in the investigation of those claims without deputing Ameens to the scenes of them, I am now looking out for some trustworthy and intelligent persons to be employed in the capacity of Ameens. When such persons shall be selected for this purpose, I shall have the honour of reporting my selection to her Highness the Begum and to your Excellency, that Ameens may be deputed by each to accompany those whom I shall appoint for the performance of this duty.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c:

My Lord :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. On the morning of Friday the 7th instant, I received a letter from his Excellency the Vizier, in the following terms: " Having conveyed to my friend, the Governor-General, my request of his permission to travel, and his Lordship having complied with my request, I write to you to desire that at the next interview between us the matter of my departure may form the first subject of our discussion."

2. Being aware, from the character of his Excellency's recent conduct and counsels, as inferred from the tenor of his letters and reported to me through various channels, that the object of his renewal on this occasion of a question which he had purposely avoided at our conference of the 17th ultimo, was no more than a desire to evade the satisfactory adjustment of the remaining points in dispute, I deemed it to be advisable to evince the most perfect readiness, on my own part, to enter on this question with his Excellency, whenever he might be pleased to renew it; and, accordingly, I replied to his letter by a message to this effect, announcing my intention to wait on him for the purpose of concluding the arrangement on the morning of the following day.

3. On Saturday the 8th instant, at a conference with his Excellency after breakfast, I commenced by referring to and reading a portion of the instructions of Government to the late Resident, Colonel Scott, under date the 11th of November 1802, which had been translated for his Excellency's information, and presented, to him, in person, by Colonel Scott, on the 25th of the same month.

4. His Excellency acknowledged his being in possession of the document to which I referred, but professed his forgetfulness of the contents of it; and I proceeded to state to his Excellency, from the English copy in my hands, the principal arguments for the necessity of concluding an arrangement to provide for the due administration of the Government during his Excellency's absence from his dominions.

5. The Vizier did not call in question, but seemed rather to admit, the validity of the arguments which had thus been adduced. He stated, that he had some recollection of similar arguments proposed to him in the first instance verbally by Colonel Scott, and afterwards delivered to him in writing. That he would search for the paper received from Colonel Scott among his records, and prepare an answer to it as soon as possible; after which he trusted that no obstacle would oppose his early departure on his travels. I replied that the British Government being once pledged to his Excellency, in the person of the Governor-General Marquis Wellesley, to make no unnecessary objection to the accomplishment of his Excellency's wishes on this point, he was sufficiently aware of the good faith of the Government in all cases to render additional assurances on my part totally superfluous; and that however much your Lordship in Council

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or myself, from motives of personal friendship for his Excellency, might regret his absence from his dominions, he might rely on an implicit adherence to the promises which were made to him on this subject, and on a cordial disposition to promote his Excellency's personal comfort, the honour and true interests of the Government, and the happiness of the people of Oude, under any occurrence or change of circumstances to be contemplated, as well as in the actual state of the administration of his Excellency's affairs.

6. I noticed particularly, and requested the attention of the Vizier to two principal conditions originally imposed by Lord Wellesley on his consent to his Excellency's departure, viz. first, the previous establishment of an approved system of administration within the reserved dominions, in terms of the provision of the sixth article of the treaty of November 1801; and, secondly, an effectual arrangement for the due conduct of that improved system of administration, and all other concerns of the Government, more particularly its relations with ours, during the absence of its natural head, and under the exercise of a delegated and necessarily defective authority.

7. With a reference to the first of those conditions, I observed, that the only possible objections which his Excellency could at any time have proposed to it, and which he actually proposed to myself at our first or second conference after my arrival at his Court, had long ago been obviated and removed. His Excellency had solicited a plan for the better administration of his Government, and the formation of that plan had been delayed by unavoidable circumstances, with the best and most friendly motives, for a considerable period of time; but a beneficial and unexceptionable plan had been ultimately suggested by your Lordship, and the details of it had been submitted by me, nay, finally acquiesced in by his Excellency, though the execution of them had been unhappily postponed; and under these circumstances, it was obvious that your Lordship might, with justice and propriety, have insisted on the fulfilment of this condition and on the establishment of the proposed system of reform, before his Excellency's departure from his dominions.

8. Yet, on the present occasion, I was authorized and instructed to depart from this important original condition of the gratification of his Excellency's wish of a temporary retirement from his Government. The actual introduction of the reform before the commencement of his journey would not now be required; but I was particularly commanded to intimate, that the circumstance of his Excellency's departure, and far less the preparations for his journey, would not produce the smallest relaxation in the efforts of our Government to accomplish the salutary objects of reform, and to prosecute to a satisfactory conclusion every one of the questions that were pending.

9. With regard to the second condition originally annexed to our consent to his Excellency's retirement from his dominions, I observed that the peculiar nature of this condition, and of the salutary restrictions prescribed to the exercise of the power of Regent in the person of his Excellency's son, was obviously such as to render it totally indispensable in the judgment of your Lordship in Council and of every reflecting mind, and that his Excellency must doubtless have been prepared to acquiesce in those necessary restrictions of his delegated authority to his son, on every occasion of his contemplating even the shortest absence from his dominions. It was superfluous, I added, to recapitulate the nature of the limitations proposed, or the arguments on which they are founded. His Excellency would find an explicit and satisfactory statement of both in the document presented to him by Colonel Scott; and all that could be necessary on my part was an offer of my friendly aid and advice, in preparing the instrument and obligation by which the power and duties of the Regent were to be delegated and defined, when the necessity for that measure should be produced by his Excellency's solemn declaration of a resolution to depart from his dominions.

10. The Vizier was extremely attentive to me during the whole of the preceding discourse. He promised to deliberate on what he had heard, to search for and peruse with attention the translation of the instructions of the Government which had been delivered to him by the late Colonel Scott, and to fix an early day

day for a conference with me at the Residency, when his final resolution should be announced.

11. I now commenced the discussion of a number of other questions depending with his Excellency the Vizier, particularly that of the reform of the police of his capital, in which the frequency of robbery and other crimes has increased in an alarming degree; and I entreated his Excellency to take measures for the detection and punishment of some banditti, supposed to be his Excellency's servants, who had recently committed depredations in the British cantonment and in the immediate neighbourhood of the Residency.

12. After a long conversation on this subject, and some others which have been recorded in separate despatches to the address of the Secretary to Government, I took my leave of his Excellency the Vizier; and though his Excellency had taught me to expect an early communication of his sentiments and final resolution on the subject of his departure from Lucknow, it was not until the 22d instant, after a lapse of a fortnight from the date of our former interview, that I had the honour of a visit from his Excellency, for the declared purpose of renewing this extraordinary discussion, and of settling what he is pleased to describe as his own particular object, the most important concern of his heart.

13. On Saturday the 22d instant, the Vizier did me the honour to breakfast with me; and on our retiring into another apartment, I expressed my readiness to receive the communication, which his Excellency had promised to make to me, of the result of his final deliberation on the subject of the necessary arrangements for his early departure from Lucknow. He replied that he had thought on the subject occasionally since our last meeting, and had committed his sentiments partially to writing, but that they were not sufficiently digested nor arranged to be delivered for my consideration. That of the two conditions annexed to his departure, the first appeared the easiest and best, and that the second was extremely difficult. The question of reform and all the other questions depending had better be settled before he set out, so as to supersede the other arrangement; and with this view he was ready to commence the work of reform, according to treaty, whenever I pleased to propose it; as well as to answer my letters on the other questions at issue, without waiting for your Lordship's reply to his letter of the 26th of August.

14. My original and uniform conviction of the utter fallacy and evasive nature and object of the Vizier's avowed resolution to retire from the Government of his country, did not require the confirmation which is contained in the foregoing paragraph, as quoted from his Excellency's words. I expressed the most genuine satisfaction at the resolution which his Excellency announced of establishing the system of reform and adjusting the other questions before he should set out on his journey. I admitted, that the satisfactory adjustment of all the depending questions would greatly facilitate, though it might not eventually supersede, the arrangements for his Excellency's departure, connected with the powers of the Regent and the obligations to be imposed upon him for his due administration of the Government with a reference to our interests in Oude. But I contemplated the supersession of those arrangements in another more agreeable point of view, by the satisfactory adjustment of all the questions that were pending between the two Governments, as leading to his Excellency's dereliction of his present disposition to travel, and to subject his sacred person to the dangers and inconvenience of a journey. I submitted, that if his Excellency were now, as I trusted he must be, sincerely disposed to put an end to every unpleasant discussion between the British Government and himself, the manner of doing so was the simplest and the easiest that could be imagined. Your Lordship's deliberate judgment on every question at issue was before him, the details of the system of reform had been arranged and finally agreed to in the month of April 1811, and the execution of them might now be commenced, without the smallest danger of their failure in any essential point, if conducted in the terms of the treaty, with our uniform concurrence and advice, which it was his Excellency's duty and interest to seek and implicitly abide by on every important occasion. That his zealous and cordial concurrence with me in the commencement and progress of the reform would afford ample and agreeable employment to his mind, and would banish

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

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banish all ideas of travelling or retiring from the Government of his country; and that the beneficial result of the salutary measures of reform, combined with the satisfactory adjustment of the remaining questions in dispute, would, of necessity, cement and improve the relations of friendship and harmony subsisting between the two states, in a degree that had never hitherto been known, and could never again be susceptible of the smallest diminution or change.

15. We now entered on the discussion, in a desultory manner however, of the details of the system of reform, and his Excellency's doubts with regard to them, and also of the question of police, and of the claims of Hoossein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckee: but as no new arguments were suggested on either side of those questions, I refrain from submitting to your Lordship any further report of our conference. The Vizier, on taking leave of me, assured me that his consideration of the several questions depending, which had then formed the subject of our discourse, should be resumed without any delay; and that a period of five days, or of ten days at the utmost, should place me in complete possession of his final resolutions with regard to them. My knowledge of his Excellency's disposition, combined with the nature and tendency of some reports which are now prevalent in this city, precludes my placing much reliance on the promise which his Excellency has made to me.

I shall resume the subject of this despatch when circumstances shall appear to require it.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
24th May 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord:

1. My despatch, under date the 24th ultimo, to your Lordship in Council's address, conveyed a report of my proceedings and discussions with his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of his avowed inclination to relinquish the cares of his Government and to travel to distant countries. The object of the renewal of this question by the Vizier, namely, an evasion of the satisfactory adjustment of the remaining points in dispute between the two Governments, has long been apparent to your Lordship, and did not require to be developed by any recent proceedings of mine.

2. His Excellency's suspension of his pretended resolution to travel, on the ground of the difficulty of concluding a satisfactory arrangement for the administration of the Government in his absence, was exactly what I had contemplated before his declaration to this effect; and his declared preference of what he is pleased to assume as the alternative of such an arrangement, namely, the establishment of a system of reform before the commencement of his journey, was no more than a puerile attempt to ascribe his dereliction of a design, which he had never seriously harboured, to the imaginary obstacles opposed to its execution by us, and to gain time and distract my attention, by engaging me in a complicated discussion of several questions at once which are totally unconnected with each other.

3. In pursuance of this apparent design, but with a natural diffidence of the means on which he had calculated for the success of it, his Excellency had no sooner retired from our conference of the 22d of May, than he transmitted to me a statement in writing, extremely equivocal in its sense, but contradictory, in as far as intelligible, of the final result of our conference, and of his promise to resume the consideration of the important question of reform, as reported to your Lordship in Council in the concluding paragraph of my despatch under date the 24th ultimo.

4. I insert a verbal translation of his Excellency's statement referred to, for your Lordship in Council's information. "My permission to depart on my travels was the original condition by treaty of my cession of a part of my dominions, in lieu of the subsidy for the troops to be employed in the defence

" defence of my country; and in exchange for this cession by me, it was
 " freely and definitively agreed that I should place my son on the musnud as
 " my deputy, and proceed whenever I pleased, after signing the treaty of
 " cession, without any sort of objection, and with every mark of distinction
 " and respect. Consequently, as I have performed my agreement, it is now
 " incumbent on you, that according to promise and treaty I have free
 " permission to depart. But as my favourite son, Shums-oo-Dowlah,
 " although adorned with every virtue and good quality, is by no means so
 " well acquainted as I am with all the affairs of the State, I cannot give him
 " full authority, like myself, to direct all concerns in my absence, and to
 " govern my subjects as I do, and consequently it is my wish to settle matters
 " in my own presence, after discussion and consultation with you, and then to
 " set out on my travels: therefore it is proper that a written instrument,
 " containing an ample and explicit detail of all matters, be prepared and
 " delivered to my son, that he may be guided by this instrument during my
 " absence in the conduct of every affair, and that until my happy return, or
 " during my absence, no change or deviation may take place; and that the
 " British Government, in like manner as it has hitherto assisted me, may be
 " aiding and assisting to my son without injury or bias. Do you accordingly
 " begin to write the detail of affairs. And with regard to the question of my
 " departure, which is a great and momentous concern, and has very long been
 " suspended, no question can be of equal importance with it, therefore this
 " question must first be decided; for until this question be decided I shall be
 " unable to frame an answer to any other."

Bengal Political
 Consultations,
 2 July 1813.

Letter
 from Resident to
 Lucknow.

5. To the above-written statement from the Vizier, received through the medium of my Moonshee, I replied by a message to this effect: That the contents of the statement in question, in as far as I could well understand them, were in direct opposition to the result of my conference with his Excellency on the morning of the 22d of May, and that a part of it was quite unintelligible. His Excellency had observed at our conference, that of the two conditions annexed to his departure, the first was the simplest and best, the other extremely difficult. That the question of reform, and all other questions depending, should be settled before he set out; and that, with this view, he was ready to resume the discussion of those questions, without awaiting the reply to his letter to the Governor-General, and would communicate his final sentiments regarding them in the space of five or ten days. That in the statement now received from his Excellency, if the purport of it were rightly understood, he had declared the necessity of an immediate adjustment of the question of his departure from his dominions, and his determination to avoid every other discussion with me until this point should be finally settled. That the preface of his Excellency's statement, in which the unqualified permission to depart was made an absolute condition of the cession, contained a series of assertions and inferences, not one of which I was prepared to admit; and that the treaty of Cession itself, a copy of which was in my possession, so far from authorizing the belief that his departure was the object of the cession, did not even contain a provision having reference to the subject of his departure, or to the delegation of his authority to his son. That the particular nature of the instrument which his Excellency seemed anxious to prepare, and for which materials had been requested from me, (if I understood his Excellency's meaning,) was already sufficiently explained to him in the document presented by Colonel Scott, which his Excellency had avowed that he possessed, and had promised to refer to among his records; but that if any doubts on the subject remained, I should have the honour of waiting on his Excellency the next day, and should afford him every necessary explanation.

6. I attended his Excellency accordingly on Tuesday the 25th ultimo, and after expressing my surprise and concern at the receipt of a document from his Excellency, so inconsistent with the purport of his discourse, and with the final result of our conference, I read and presented to him in writing what I described to be the ultimatum of our Government, with a reference to the question of his departure, and to supersede not only the use of his Excellency's statement on this occasion, but of his renewal, at any future period, of the question to which it referred.

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Consultations,
2 July 1818.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. My statement, above referred to, was conceived in the following terms.

“ If your Excellency do really entertain the design of travelling, or of retiring from the government of your country, the only one indispensable condition of the accomplishment of your Excellency’s wish is now finally declared to you, and is as simple and practicable as can be. If you acquiesce, there is nothing to do but to fix the day of your departure, and apprise the Government of that day; and if you decline, any future avowal of a disposition to quit your dominions must, in my mind, be totally useless, since it is impossible for our Government to believe that the disposition is seriously entertained. The condition is briefly as follows. The Regent or occupant of the musnud of Oude under a delegated authority, whoever the person may be, must come under a solemn obligation to regulate his official proceedings by the advice of the British Government, and to adopt on every occasion, without hesitation or delay, such measures as may be suggested by the Resident, under the authority of that Government, for the prosperity of the country and happiness of the people of Oude; as also to refrain from all official measures which the Resident, under the same authority, may object to, and require the Regent to desist from: in other words, the administration of all the public concerns of the State must be virtually placed in the hands of the British Government and its representative, till your Excellency’s return to your dominions. With regard to your domestic concerns, the management of your family and household, your Excellency will, of course, be at liberty to give such authority and powers to the Regent, as to your Excellency’s wisdom may seem meet, and to prepare and furnish him with your written instructions accordingly. The above is the only condition on which your Excellency can retire from your dominions with the sanction of the British Government; because, in fact, it is the only arrangement under which the just rights and interests of that Government in the State of Oude can be preserved during the period of your Excellency’s absence. And I have further been commanded to declare to you, that if the object of your temporary retirement be a wish to evade or delay a reform of the system of your administration, or the satisfactory adjustment of any other point in dispute, this object cannot be attained by the means in your Excellency’s contemplation, since no consideration whatever can induce the British Government to relax in its zealous and strenuous efforts for the accomplishment of the measures in view.”

8. His Excellency, after hearing the above declaration, and receiving it in writing from my hands, observed that it certainly superseded the use of the statement which he had sent to me, which had, in fact, been prepared before our conference of the 22d., and which he now expressed a wish to withdraw, repeating the purport of his promise to resume the consideration of the reform, and to apprise me of his final resolution regarding it, within ten days at the furthest from the date of our former conference. I returned his Excellency’s statement and took my leave of him, after some desultory conversation on a few subordinate matters, which it is unnecessary to repeat to your Lordship.

9. On the 31st ultimo I received from his Excellency the Vizier what his Excellency was pleased to describe to me as a communication of his final and unalterable sentiments on the important question of reform, in a letter of that date to my address, a literal translation of which is submitted for your Lordship’s perusal.

10. It is not very difficult to perceive, though the language of his Excellency’s letter be extremely equivocal throughout, that his object on the present occasion, while conveying a reluctant consent to the introduction of a system of reform (for the notice of the specific system recommended by your Lordship is carefully avoided in his letter), is to demonstrate the impracticability of producing any beneficial change in the present frame of his Government through the agency or influence of ours, without encroaching on his independent authority, as guaranteed by the Honourable Company, in a certain degree and on certain provisions, no doubt, but misconstrued or rather wilfully perverted by his Excellency into a right of doing whatever he pleases on every occasion, without reference to our opinion or advice.

11. Another though a more remote object in his Excellency's view is probably that which is described in the instructions of the Government to me, conveyed by the Chief Secretary's despatch under date the 21st of June 1811, viz., by a previous intimation that he adopts the proposed system of reform in compliance with your Lordship's desire, under a conviction of its probable failure, combined with the secret intention of realizing by clandestine means the imaginary obstacles which oppose it, to preserve an ultimate pretext for ascribing the eventual failure of some of the measures of reform, or a partial defalcation of his revenue, to the inefficacy of the system proposed.

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2 July 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

12. Under the influence of this construction of his Excellency's purposes and views, which is drawn from my knowledge of his character as well as from the tenor of his letter, I have deemed it to be my duty to prepare and transmit to his Excellency an answer conceived in such terms as seem calculated to frustrate his object, and to place in their proper light the relative rights and obligations of the British Government and his Excellency, with a reference to the introduction and progress of the reform of his Excellency's Government, and to every important measure of the public administration of Oude, undertaken with or without the advice and concurrence of our Government. A copy and translation of the letter which I addressed to the Vizier on this occasion are submitted for your Lordship's perusal, and I shall be highly gratified to learn that it obtains the honour of your approbation.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
5th June 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 31st May 1813.)

On the 17th of Shabaun, 1227 Higguree (26th August 1812), I addressed a letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, containing an answer to the contents of his Lordship's letter dated the 8th of May 1812 (25th of Rubbee-oos-sanee 1227), a statement of the difficulties attending the introduction of the plan of reform for certain reasons, and a request of information on certain points, and of the extirpation of the disaffected and rebellious from my country. His Lordship, in his letter of the 5th of March 1813 (1st of Rubbee-ool-Avvul 1228) recently received, from want of leisure or from some other cause, has not replied to any part of my letter above noticed, but has insisted on the contents of his own. As I have repeatedly said to you at our recent conferences that I am disposed to perform whatever is contained in the treaty, and have never departed, nor shall ever depart from it; and as I further promised, at our last conference, to send you a written statement of my wishes on this point in ten days, therefore, from necessity, contemplating the present disordered state of the country, occasioned by the delay in quelling disturbances and the consequent loss of revenue, without awaiting the receipt of his Lordship's reply to my statements, I send for your perusal a copy of the last paragraph of a discussion, containing a summary of the provisions of treaty between the two States, agreeably to which, without the smallest deviation, not even the point of a hair, I am prepared to establish such a system of administration in my dominions, as shall be conducive to the prosperity of my subjects, and be calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants. Do you peruse the enclosed document with attention and care, and keep the contents of it always in view, so that nothing contrary to its tenor may occur.

Letter
from the Vizier.

" The Governor-General now proceeds to state the general principles by
" which the connexion and intercourse between the two States are to be
" regulated henceforth.

" By the terms of the treaty concluded between the British Government and
" his Excellency the Vizier on the 10th November 1801, his Excellency the
" Nawaub's authority is to be completely established within his reserved domi-
" nions, and to be exercised through his Excellency's own officers and servants,
" the British Government having engaged to guarantee the establishment and
" exercise

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Letter
from the Vizier.

" exercise of his Excellency's authority within his reserved dominions, and the Governor-General will never depart from this engagement. His Excellency has engaged to establish within his reserved dominions such a system of administration as shall be conducive to the prosperity of his subjects, and be calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants. This system of administration is to be carried into effect by his Excellency's own officers and servants, and by his own authority.

" His Excellency has also engaged always to advise with, and to act in conformity to, the counsel of the officers of the Honourable Company. In the establishment, therefore, of an improved system of administration within the reserved dominions, and also in all affairs connected with the ordinary government of those dominions, and with the usual exercise of his Excellency's established authority, the Vizier has engaged to advise with the British Government and to conform to its counsels.

" Those counsels will always be offered to his Excellency in the form of friendly advice, and in the spirit of reciprocal confidence and of mutual regard and respect.

" The Governor-General, when the importance of the subject shall require, and the nature of the occasion shall admit his immediate intercourse with the Vizier, will offer the advice of the British Government to his Excellency by a direct communication, either in person or by letter.

" The British Resident at Lucknow, however, is the constituted local representative of the British Government, and the ordinary and established channel of communication in all cases whatever.

" The Resident will, therefore, in the common course of business, offer to the Vizier the advice of the British Government in the name of the Governor-General; and in every case which may require the Resident to state such advice, it is to be received as proceeding immediately from the Governor-General.

" Such advice will be offered by the Resident in all practicable cases, under the general or specific orders of the Governor-General.

" The Resident must advise the Nawaub with perfect cordiality, and must employ every endeavour to coincide with his Excellency in an uniform course of measures, and to unite sincerely with his Excellency in carrying into effect exclusively under his Excellency's authority and through his Excellency's officers, those measures which shall be determined upon, in conformity to the counsels of the British Government. In cases requiring the aid of the British Government, or the assistance of the British troops, they shall be employed according to the exigency of the occasion.

" The Resident must conduct himself towards the Nawaub Vizier, on all occasions, with the utmost degree of respect, conciliation, and attention, and must maintain cordial union and harmony in all transactions, and must endeavour to impart strength and stability to his Excellency's authority.

" The Resident must never proceed to act in the affairs of the reserved dominions without previous consultation with his Excellency or with his minister; and the Resident must, in the first instance, observe strict secrecy with regard to the subject of such consultations, until the measures to be adopted shall be finally determined.

" Under these regulations, the Governor-General expects that the Nawaub Vizier will act in conformity to the advice and representations of the Resident: and as no question of difficulty remains between the British Government and his Excellency, the Governor-General entertains a confident hope that no future vexation can occur in the transaction of affairs."

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 4th June 1813.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 31st ultimo; and the contents of it, though not distinctly expressive of your Excellency's acquiescence in the views of our Government, nor free from equivocation and doubt, yet as indicative of a final resolution to adopt the salutary system of government so often recommended to your Excellency by me, have afforded satisfaction to my mind.

Of the document which your Excellency has transmitted to me I was, of course, in possession before. There are copies of it in English and Persian deposited among the records of my office. Its provisions have been ever in my view. It is quoted in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter to your Excellency, and forms the basis of every proposition which has hitherto been offered to your Excellency by his Lordship in Council, or by me, and it is impossible that the smallest deviation from it should have ever taken place upon our part, or should even be wished for by me on any future occasion. On the part of your Excellency, however, I am impelled by justice and candor, as well as by motives of regard for the future welfare and true interests of your Government, to declare, that from the date of the instrument referred to, in as far as my records exhibit, generally, and during the period of my own residence at your Excellency's Court, particularly, the obligation "to advise with and conform to the counsels of the officers of the Honourable Company," has been forgotten, or treated with disregard. Not a measure of your Excellency's administration has proceeded with the concurrence of our Government, nor has your Excellency ever been pleased, on any one important occasion, to require my opinion or advice, nor even to apprise me of your measures before they were carried into effect; and therefore if your Excellency's authority and power, the establishment and maintenance of which have been guaranteed by the British Government, on the obvious and express provision of their being uniformly exercised with its advice, had in fact suffered injury or diminution, if a much more considerable defalcation in the revenues of your country had occurred, the responsibility must have all been your own, and the British Government must have been totally free from it.

But now, in opposition to the past, if this wise and important stipulation is indeed to be strictly adhered to; if your Excellency have sincerely determined "to advise with the British Government, and to conform to its counsels in all affairs connected with the government of those dominions and with the exercise of your established authority," you may, in this case, be fully assured, and your august heart may rely with confidence on the assurance, that no future injury can arise to the exercise of your power and authority, nor to the honour and dignity of your Government, which on the contrary must daily increase with the comfort and happiness of your subjects, the prosperity of the country and people, the security of their property and lives.

Upon those principles, and influenced by this wise resolution, your Excellency should have no hesitation in commencing the work of reform without any further delay, relying on my friendly advice and my cordial and zealous assistance in the commencement and progress of the arrangements, till they be brought to a happy conclusion. For this purpose I transmit to your Excellency a copy of our original agreement, under date the 4th of April 1811 (9th Rubbee-ool-Avvul 1226), to which I solicit your particular and constant attention, that no departure from the tenor of it may take place.

In answer to your Excellency's remark, that your acquiescence in this salutary arrangement (if such may be inferred from your letter) has been produced "by necessity, &c. without awaiting the receipt of a reply to your statements from the Right Honourable the Governor-General," I am happy to be enabled to inform you that his Lordship's reply to your letter under date the 26th of August may be very shortly expected, and that I hope to have the honour of presenting it to your Excellency within a limited period of time,

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

when I confidently hope and expect that the necessity by which your Excellency would seem to be influenced on this occasion, will be changed into a cordial conviction of the wisdom and expedience of the several measures of reform, and a desire to promote their success by every exertion in your power. But, as I am already fully apprized of his Lordship's sentiments on this subject, and have been recently authorized and commanded to declare those sentiments to your Excellency, I submit to your Excellency, in the mean time, that a delay to give effect to the reform, in the contemplation or hope of any change in his Lordship's opinion regarding it, is not only unnecessary but unwise, and that, with a view to his Lordship's satisfaction, the sooner we commence it the better. At the same time I suggest to your Excellency, that as, after the commencement of this work, both your Excellency's attention and my own must be totally engrossed by its importance, and no other less momentous concern should be permitted to engage our attention, it seems peculiarly advisable and expedient that the only two remaining points in dispute, namely, the cases and claims of Hoosein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckee Khan, should be previously adjusted by your Excellency in the terms of my recent letters, which have been submitted to the notice of the Government and have obtained its entire approbation.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 2d July, 1813.)

A considerable period has elapsed since I had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter in reply to that which I addressed to you on the 8th of May, 1812, on the several important topics which have for some time past formed the subject of negotiation between your Excellency and this Government, but their contents have not failed to occupy a large portion of my attention. The delay which has occurred in the preparation of my answer to your Excellency's letters has not been occasioned by the difficulty or intricacy of the subjects in discussion, nor by any doubts which the objections stated by your Excellency, either in those letters or in your correspondence and conferences with the Resident, have created in my mind, with regard to the justice, expediency, or practicability of the measures which you have been counselled to adopt. It has arisen partly from the occupation of my time by other matters of public exigency which would not admit of delay, and partly by a hope which I was led to entertain, that the operation on your Excellency's judgment and good sense of the powerful and unanswerable arguments which had been opposed by the Resident to the doubts and objections offered by your Excellency to a compliance with the just expectations of the British Government, would have enabled me to address your Excellency, in reply to your letters above acknowledged, in terms of congratulation at the satisfactory adjustment of all the questions which had so long been depending, and especially on the fair prospect of an effectual removal of the acknowledged evils of the present system of your Government, and of an early and substantial improvement in the revenues and resources of the state, in the wealth, cultivation, and population of your territories, and in the security, prosperity, and happiness of your people, which must be the certain consequence of the introduction into your dominions of that salutary system of administration which has been so earnestly recommended to your adoption.

It is with sincere regret and disappointment, proportioned to the deep interest which I must always take in the prosperity of your Excellency's affairs, that I find myself compelled again to address you in terms of remonstrance and expostulation, which it can neither be agreeable to me to use nor to your Excellency to hear.

While, however, my disappointment has been extreme at the failure of the Resident's endeavours to obtain your cordial assent to some of the most important requisitions conveyed in my former letters, and those of the Vice-President during my absence from Fort William, and in the representations which Major

Baillie

Baillie has addressed to you in my name and under my instructions, I have derived great satisfaction from the settlement of some questions of no inconsiderable moment, which has been effected since my last address to your Excellency. I shall advert to these points, and to the arrangements connected with them, which still remain to give effect to your Excellency's decisions, before I close this letter: but it is necessary, in the first place, to draw your attention to those questions on which your Excellency has continued to withhold your consent to the just and reasonable expectations and demands urged by the British Government, under the clear and unequivocal sanction of existing treaties and engagements.

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2 July 1813.

Letter from
Governor-General.

The most prominent of these, in point of interest and general importance, is the reform of your Excellency's administration; or, to speak with more precision, the *first step* towards a radical reform of the existing abuses of your Government, by the introduction of an improved system of assessment, management, and collection of the land revenue throughout the whole of your dominions.

It can hardly be necessary to recall to your Excellency's recollection the tenor of my letter of the 28th December 1810, in which the right of this Government to propose to your Excellency the introduction of a reform, and the obligation imposed on you by treaty to adopt that advice, were proved beyond the reach of contradiction, and the outline of a specific plan of reform was offered to your Excellency's consideration, and recommended by the strongest appeal to your Excellency's humanity, understanding, and good faith. At your Excellency's desire, the Resident laid before you the measures of detail by which this plan might be carried early into effect, with ease, security, and success. After a minute and elaborate discussion of the several points comprized in my letter above referred to, your Excellency was pleased to admit in the fullest manner, the necessity of a reform in your administration, the obligation on your Excellency to carry it into effect in conformity to the counsel of the British Government, and your assent generally to the specific plan proposed. You also signified your acquiescence in the subsidiary arrangements for carrying it into effect, submitted to you by the Resident, with exception to some points in which, in compliance with your Excellency's wishes, a compromise was agreed to. Notwithstanding all these assurances, given both verbally and in writing, in a manner little less authentic and formal than if they had been reduced to the form of a treaty, and equally binding on your Excellency's honour and good faith, your Excellency was pleased suddenly to retract your consent, and to oppose the most determined resistance to every effort on the part of the Resident, acting under the positive orders of this Government, to induce your Excellency to abide by the terms of your engagements, and your own specific assent to the plan submitted to you. To recapitulate the arguments by which the proposition contained in my letter above referred to was supported, or those by which your Excellency's objections were successfully repelled and refuted by the Resident, in the correspondence and conferences which ensued, would be to renew a discussion which has already been completely exhausted. Equally unnecessary must it be again to express the astonishment and concern which were excited in my mind by your Excellency's extraordinary conduct, in refusing to abide by your own written and positive assent, by which the accomplishment of this great and beneficial object has for a time been frustrated. I cannot help, however, declaring to your Excellency, in the most unreserved manner, that I am unable to perceive a single argument or objection which you have advanced in the course of the protracted negotiation that has taken place on this subject, which has not been successfully combated by the Resident, and I am persuaded that a candid and dispassionate review of the letters which I have had the honour to address to you, and of the letters of the Resident, will impress this conviction as forcibly on your Excellency's mind as on my own.

When, indeed, I reflect on the nature of the objections which you have raised to this measure, they appear to me quite unworthy of the penetrating and just understanding for which your Excellency is renowned. With the example of the Ceded Provinces before your eyes, where the establishment of the system
which

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—
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Governor-General.

which is now recommended to your Excellency has not only promoted the prosperity, happiness, and contentment of the country and the people in an eminent degree, but materially augmented and secured the public revenue; I cannot understand your Excellency's apprehension of a loss of revenue arising from the introduction of the same system into your reserved dominions. In the certain support of the British Government in carrying into effect all your arrangements, and in overawing any of your refractory servants or subjects who may be prompted by their corrupt personal views to oppose the introduction of the reform, your Excellency possesses an unfailing security against any diminution of your just authority.

The advice of the British Government on this important subject has been dictated by a spirit of the most sincere friendship, and by the direct and cordial interest which it takes in the prosperity of your affairs and the tranquillity of your dominions, as well as by the powerful motive stated in my letter of the 28th December 1810, the necessity of reforming a system under which the troops of the British Government are called upon to employ their exertions in support of injustice, extortion, and oppression. Influenced by these motives, it is impossible that this Government can ever propose to your Excellency the adoption of a measure having the most remote tendency to diminish your personal consequence, or impair the just authority of your Government, which it is, on the contrary, both the interest and the duty, as well as the anxious desire of the British Government to uphold and support, and for the maintenance of which nothing will be so effectual as the establishment of the system of administration which has been recommended to your adoption. Your Excellency cannot suppose, that by conforming to the advice of the British Government your independent authority is weakened, or your consequence lowered in the eyes of your subjects or the world. Your Excellency knows that the same treaty which secures to you the exercise of your authority within your reserved dominions, confers on the British Government the right to offer, and imposes on your Excellency the obligation to conform to its advice, and that that advice has never been adopted by your Excellency in a single instance in which it has not manifestly redounded to your genuine interest and reputation. The British Government will never so far forget the duties of a sincere friend, as to withhold from your Excellency that counsel which it is entitled and required by treaty to offer, and to which your Excellency is bound by the same solemn obligation to conform, from an unworthy desire to conciliate your temporary good-will, by a sacrifice of the permanent interests and happiness of yourself and your subjects. A little reflection will satisfy your Excellency, that a just view of your substantial interests will identify the dictates of your own judgment with the advice of the British Government.

Entertaining the most deliberate conviction of the advantage, nay, necessity, of the proposed reform in your administration, of the right possessed by this Government to urge your Excellency to introduce it, and of the obligation which the treaty, as explained and confirmed by the result of your negotiation with the Marquess Wellesley at Lucknow, imposes on you to attend to the advice and opinion of the British Government in carrying into effect that salutary arrangement, the British Government would have been entitled, and was perhaps required, on receiving your Excellency's acquiescence in the specific plan of reform which had been proposed, to insist on your Excellency's proceeding without delay to carry it into effect, in concert with the Resident.

The necessity of a reform of your Excellency's administration was no new idea created by recent occurrences in your Excellency's territories, although its necessity was strongly confirmed by them and by the experience of every day, but had been long felt and admitted, both by the British Government and by your Excellency, even before the Treaty of Cession, as is sufficiently manifest from the provisions of that treaty and the negotiations which preceded it.

When, therefore, the existence of the evil was so fully admitted, and a specific remedy agreed to, after a careful and deliberate examination, your Excellency cannot fail to recognise, in the patience which the British Government and its representative at your Excellency's Court have submitted to the volumi-

nous

nous and laborious discussions which have since arisen exclusively from your Excellency's fancied apprehensions and unsubstantial doubts of the expediency and practicability of the plan, the strongest proof of the forbearance and moderation of the British Government, and of its anxious desire to afford every practicable degree of satisfaction and assurance to your Excellency's mind, on every part of the arrangement to which you had already given your express assent.

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Letter from
Governor-General

Not a single argument or objection has been stated by your Excellency, whether applying to the general principle of the arrangement or to its subordinate parts, to the speculative advantages of the proposed system or to its practical details, to its immediate or its remote consequences, which has not been respectfully entertained, deliberately examined, and successfully refuted.

To what, then, am I to attribute your Excellency's persevering opposition to this most salutary measure? I cannot, consistently with my high opinion of your sagacity and discernment, ascribe it to a conviction of the solidity of doubts and apprehensions which have been so often proved to be groundless; and I am compelled therefore to adopt, although with extreme reluctance, the only conclusion which remains, namely, that your Excellency has formed a decided resolution to oppose the introduction of the reform under all circumstances, and that your repeated expressions of doubt, alarm, and apprehension, are employed with the sole view of perplexing and prolonging the negotiation, in the vain hope that the question will ultimately be abandoned by the British Government, in despair of obtaining your acquiescence.

I most earnestly caution your Excellency against admitting into your mind for a moment so delusive an expectation. You may rely implicitly on the assurance which I give you, that however desirous your Excellency may be to evade the performance of your engagements, the British Government will not cease to require you to fulfil them, and that no lapse of time, and no change of circumstances, will induce the British Government to relinquish a measure which it considers to be so essential to the welfare and happiness of your Excellency's subjects, to the promotion of your own substantial ease, comfort, and advantage, and to the reputation and interest of both Governments, and which it is bound by the most solemn obligations to persevere in seeing carried into effect according to the provisions of the treaty.

I request your Excellency to reflect, that by persisting in your refusal to carry into effect, through the medium of your own officers and with the advice and assistance of the officers of the British Government, a system of administration for your reserved dominions, conducive to the prosperity of your subjects and calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants, you will violate an express stipulation of the Treaty of 1801. Let me entreat your Excellency, with all the warmth and sincerity of friendship, to consider for a moment the consequences in which you may involve yourself by such a course of conduct, and to hasten to avert them, by entering with zeal and cordiality into the views of the British Government, directed by a desire to promote your interests and those of your subjects, which are inseparable from its own, and by applying yourself, in concert with the Resident, to carry into early and complete effect in all its branches, the plan of reform to which you have given your assent. Your Excellency may rely on the cordial, able, and zealous co-operation of the Resident in this great and beneficial work, and on the constant and effectual support of the British Government, and you will ultimately enjoy the benefits of the improved administration in the augmentation of your resources, the comparative ease and regularity of the collections, the tranquillity of the country, and the general prosperity and happiness of your subjects.

The Resident, whose conduct through the whole of the negotiation with your Excellency on the question of reform has merited my entire approbation, and who is acquainted with my views and furnished with my instructions on every branch of the subject, is prepared, in concert with your Excellency, to enter on the necessary arrangements for carrying this salutary work into effect, and I confidently expect that it will now be set on foot without further delay or opposition on the part of your Excellency.

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Consultations,
2 July 1813.

Letter from
Governor-General.

The next point of those remaining unsettled, to which I shall call your Excellency's attention, is the case of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan.

The injuries which this respectable person has sustained at the hands of your Excellency's Aumil of Sandee are so well known to your Excellency from Major Baillie's representations and the inspection of authentic documents, as to render a repetition of them unnecessary.

The result of my deliberate judgment in the case of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan was finally stated to your Excellency in a letter from the Resident under date the 29th April 1813, to which no reply has been received. From that letter your Excellency will have learned, that I am entirely satisfied of the validity of the Moonshee's claim, as described by the Resident, and that I deem it incumbent on your Excellency's justice to issue your positive orders without delay to the Aumil of the district of Sandee for the release and restoration to the Moonshee of his hereditary possessions in that district, with the amount of the rents which have been collected from them during the period of his being out of possession, and for his being permitted to farm the villages in his zemindaree at a fair and moderate assessment; also to the several persons who have built houses on the Moonshee's ground without his consent for the immediate removal of their buildings, and for the reinstatement of the Moonshee's sons, the only legitimate grand-children of Sulām Oolla Khan, in the houses and other possessions of which they have been unjustly deprived.

I now renew my request to your Excellency to issue orders to the foregoing effect without any delay, in order that justice may at last be rendered to this much injured person.

The case of the unfortunate Hoosein Alee Khan, the second son of the late Hyder Beg Khan, whose family has so many claims to the consideration both of your Excellency's house and of the British Government, has been so thoroughly canvassed, as to leave nothing to be said but a renewal of the expression of my unalterable conviction of his right to the restoration of the pension granted to the family by the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, through the mediation of the Marquess Cornwallis, and enjoyed until your Excellency's accession to the musnud. My deliberate judgment on this point has been recently stated to your Excellency, in my name, by the Resident, in a letter of the 1st of May, to which you have returned no answer.

The actual grant of the stipend, and the receipt of it by the family till your Excellency's accession, are capable of the most undoubted proof; and the Resident has repeatedly declared his readiness to prove them, either by a reference to the records of the Residency, or by the evidence of respectable inhabitants of Lucknow on oath. Your Excellency's ignorance of the circumstance of the original grant, therefore, the only ground on which you have been pleased to refuse the restoration of the stipend, may be removed at your pleasure; and I feel myself entitled to call upon your Excellency, under the specific authority which this Government derives from your Excellency's letter to Mr. Wellesley, of the 26th of October 1801, to restore to this unfortunate family the means of subsistence of which they have so long been deprived without any grounds of alleged misconduct, excepting in the case of the elder brother, whose disgraceful and inhuman conduct towards his brother only constitutes an additional and most powerful argument for the restoration of the stipend in favour of the latter, and of those branches of the family who are left in a condition of distress by Akbur Alee's unjust appropriation of the property of his deceased father. On this point I must again refer your Excellency to the Vice-President's letter of 15th of March 1811, the reasoning contained in which appears to me to be unanswerable.

The Resident has my orders to renew his instances to your Excellency on this subject, and it is my request and expectation that your Excellency will attend to his representations.

The unhappy differences which have so long subsisted between your Excellency and her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and the failure of the zealous endeavours of the Resident to effect a mitigation of her Highness's distresses and to mediate a reconciliation, have been a source of extreme concern to me. Her Highness's

Highness's ultimate resolution to retire to the Honourable Company's dominions, and her actual removal to Elahabad, with the subsequent consent of your Excellency to the commutation on the fair and just terms proposed by the Resident of her Highness's jagier and khassa for a fixed payment in money, have relieved me from the necessity of dwelling on that distressing subject. I trust the impediments which I understand opposed the completion of this arrangement have been removed, and that it has been satisfactorily adjusted.

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2 July 1815.

Letter from
Governor-General.

There is only one point connected with her Highness's affairs which it is necessary for me to press on your Excellency's attention, namely, the restitution of the possessions derived by her Highness from her ancestors at Delhi, which are still retained in your Excellency's hands, together with payment of the rents and profits arising from them since they have been held by your Excellency. A list of those possessions was submitted to your Excellency by the Resident in the month of Zeekaad 1227, and your Excellency declared to the Begum your intention of ordering restitution: it can, therefore, only be necessary to recall this circumstance to your recollection, to insure the immediate performance of your promise; and I accordingly request that you will immediately send an order for the delivery of the lands, houses, and gardens in question, to such person as her Highness may appoint to receive them, and that you will pay the amount which has been received by your Excellency on account of them into the Resident's treasury, on account of the Begum. Your Excellency's early compliance with this just demand will be received as a mark of your friendship and attention to the advice of the British Government.

Your Excellency's assent to the arbitration by the Resident of all differences between your Excellency and her Highness the Bhow Begum, has laid the foundation of a satisfactory adjustment of all depending questions between your Excellency and her Highness. The right of the British Government, or its representative at your Excellency's Court, to exercise the functions of an arbitrator in all those disputes cannot be justly contested, and I have derived much satisfaction from perceiving the conviction which has been produced on your Excellency's mind in that respect. The affairs of the khoord muhl, which were a source of so much vexatious correspondence and controversy with your Excellency, have happily been adjusted, by the submission of the ladies of the muhl to the just authority of the Begum: nothing remains, therefore, to be said in reply to that part of your Excellency's letter which relates to that subject, except to express my satisfaction at the result.

Your Excellency's declaration of your desire to render justice to the Sepoys of the Honourable Company who may be aggrieved by your officers, is perfectly satisfactory to my mind; and the mode of decision in such cases which your Excellency has been pleased to adopt, cannot but meet my entire approbation and concurrence.

Your Excellency's final acquiescence in the unrestricted employment of the British troops stationed within your dominions in the pursuit and apprehension of marauders committing depredations in the Company's provinces, and seeking shelter in your territories, as a measure deemed essential to the security and tranquillity of the Company's adjoining districts, has also been a source of great satisfaction to the British Government. Your Excellency may rely with confidence on the discreet exercise of that power by the officers of this Government.

I cannot conclude this letter without endeavouring to impress on your Excellency's mind the solemn nature of the obligation by which you are bound to resort to the friendly advice and assistance of the British Government, not only in such extraordinary and important affairs as those which have formed the principal topics of my present address, but in the ordinary administration of your Government. By a careful observance of this rule, your Excellency will secure to the utmost practicable extent the easy, tranquil, and regular transaction of your affairs, and will be enabled to avoid those vexatious controversies and discussions which must inevitably be the result of a deviation from this salutary course.

I must always regret the necessity of addressing your Excellency in the language of complaint, remonstrance, and expostulation. It is my earnest wish that

To her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum. (Written 2d July 1813.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 July 1813.

Letter from
Governor-General.

Although a considerable time has elapsed since I was honoured by the receipt of your Highness's letter, the contents of it have always been present to my mind, and the instructions which I have issued from time to time to the Resident at Lucknow on the subject of your Highness's affairs will have manifested the interest which I have taken in them, while his communications, conveying to you my own sentiments on all points, have supplied the defect of a direct answer to your Highness's letter, which I have been prevented from addressing to you by a variety of circumstances, which it would be tedious to recite.

I am unable to express in adequate terms the extreme concern and grief with which I perused the afflicting recital of your Highness's distresses so feelingly portrayed in that letter, my sincere sympathy in your severe and unmerited sufferings, and the poignant regret with which I learned the failure of the utmost exertions of the Resident to effect a mitigation of them, and to mediate a reconciliation between your Highness and his Excellency the Vizier, which might have enabled you to continue to reside in his Excellency's dominions, and to enjoy the ease, security, and contentment to which your high rank and many eminent virtues so justly entitle you.

Your Highness having finally adopted the resolution to withdraw from the dominions of Oude and to fix your residence in the Company's provinces, all that remained to be done by the Resident, acting under my orders, and moved by his own personal respect for your Highness and sympathy for your sufferings, was to adopt such measures as were in his power to facilitate your journey, to accompany it with those marks of respect and honour, on the part of the British Government, which are due to your exalted rank, and to provide for your honourable reception at Elahabad, the place which your Highness had selected for your residence.

It has been highly gratifying to me to learn that Major Baillie's proceedings have given satisfaction to your Highness; and I request you to be assured, that it is the earnest desire of the British Government that your residence in the Company's provinces may prove a source of comfort and tranquillity to your mind, and may gradually diminish the acuteness of your mental distresses.

Since your Highness's departure from Lucknow, Major Baillie has been sedulously employed in effecting an arrangement for the commutation, on fair and just principles, of your Highness's jagier and khassa for a regular payment in money; and I have reason to hope that he has been able to effect that desirable object on terms which will prove satisfactory to your Highness. Major Baillie has also received my instructions to renew his requisition to the Vizier for the restitution of the possessions which your Highness has derived from your ancestors at Delhi, and their transfer from the hands of his Excellency's agents to a person to be appointed by your Highness to receive charge of them for your benefit. I trust that no unnecessary delay will take place in the adjustment of this point, on which you will receive a communication from Major Baillie.

(Signed) MINTO.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The communication to you of the final result of the deliberations of the Governor-General in Council on the contents of your despatches of the dates noted in the margin,* reporting the progress of your negotiation with the Vizier on the important question of reform, and other points of discussion

6 P

between

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

* 31st August, 2d, 7th, 9th, 12th, and 18th September, 5th October, 27th November, 2d, 5th, and 9th December 1812; 20th April, 6th, and 10th May, and 5th June 1813.

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

between the British Government and his Excellency, to which those despatches refer, has been suspended, until the state of the public business should admit of the preparation of an answer to the letters addressed by the Vizier to the Governor-General, in reply to his Lordship's letter of the 8th of May 1812, and transmitted with your despatches to the Persian Secretary of the 9th of September and 5th of December, and to his Excellency's separate letter relating to the affairs of her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, transmitted with your despatch to the Persian Secretary of the 2d of December.

2. The Governor-General having now replied to those letters, I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed copy in English of the letter which his Lordship has addressed to the Vizier on this occasion, and to communicate to you the following observations and instructions of the Governor-General in Council on the subjects to which it refers.

3. The original letter to the Vizier will be transmitted to you by the Persian Secretary with the least practicable delay.

4. Before I proceed to the immediate subject of this despatch, I am directed by the Governor-General in Council to convey to you the cordial expression of his Lordship in Council's approbation of the ability, judgment, firmness, and perseverance, which have distinguished your conduct in the arduous and important negotiation to which your despatches refer. The peculiar temper and disposition of the Vizier have, on this, as on former occasions, presented obstacles to the accomplishment of the just views of the British Government at the Court of Lucknow, which no exertion of the qualities above described, without the application of the further direct interference of the Government, could be expected entirely to overcome; while the failure of your utmost efforts, therefore, to obtain his Excellency's concurrence in the whole of the measures which you have been employed in urging him to adopt, has excited regret rather than surprize in the mind of his Lordship in Council, the success which has attended our exertions in accomplishing some objects to which great importance was attached by Government, has afforded his Lordship in Council a high degree of satisfaction; and your conduct, in either case, is considered to have augmented your claim to his distinguished approbation, which has already been so frequently and justly acknowledged.

5. While the Governor-General in Council regrets the failure of your efforts to obtain his Excellency's acquiescence in those demands and expectations of Government which are still unfulfilled, it is extremely gratifying to his Lordship in Council to observe that the progress of your discussions has had the effect of compelling the Vizier gradually to abandon every ground on which he has attempted to resist them, by a semblance of argument, or by assumed doubts and apprehensions of the expediency and practicability of the measures proposed to him, and has reduced him to the necessity of having recourse to the most palpable evasion and prevarication, in order to elude what he can no longer fairly object to. This observation refers especially to the question of reform, although it is applicable, in a greater or less degree, to the other topics which have lately been agitated with the Vizier; and, in stating it, I am instructed to notice in terms of peculiar approbation, the able tenor of your remarks on the Vizier's first proposed answer to the Governor-General's letter of the 8th of May 1812, containing arguments the most irrefragable, in opposition to the weak and evasive reasoning adopted by his Excellency with a view to obstruct the salutary and indispensable object of reform.

6. With regard to the question of reform, which is the principal subject of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier of this date, you will observe, that his Lordship considers all argument to have been completely exhausted in the long and elaborate discussions which have already taken place; and that being decidedly of opinion that the British Government will not be justified in relaxing its efforts to carry that arrangement into effect while a possibility remains of accomplishing it, his Lordship has aimed not so much at exposing the weak and untenable arguments and feigned doubts and alarms of the Vizier, as at endeavouring to impress on his mind, both the right and the determination of the

the British Government to enforce the observance of the stipulations of the treaty in this particular, to make him sensible of the condition to which his perseverance in opposing our just views may eventually place him with relation to this Government, and of the hopelessness of ultimately succeeding in that opposition, and generally to obtain his prompt and implicit compliance with demands urged under the express sanction of a public treaty, by awakening his mind to the possible consequences of an opposite course of conduct.

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from Secretary to
Government.

7. The Governor-General in Council cannot anticipate the new efforts of evasion or delay which the Vizier may employ with a view to prolong the negotiation after the receipt of the Governor-General's letter. It is possible, indeed, that he may declare his assent to the plan, and agree to enter immediately, in concert with you, on the necessary arrangements, and perhaps actually do so, trusting to time and circumstances for an opportunity of breaking them off, or perhaps to the means which he may possess, by clandestine intrigue, of frustrating them in their progress. His success in either would be deeply to be lamented, as defeating, or at least retarding, the accomplishment of reform, and would afford matter of triumph and gratification to the Vizier. His Lordship in Council, however, reposes entire reliance in your vigilance, discernment, and energy, for frustrating any designs which his Excellency may entertain of this nature.

8. You are so fully possessed of the views and sentiments of the Governor-General in Council in every branch of the proposed measures of reform, as to render any instructions for your guidance, in addition to those which you have from time to time received, entirely unnecessary. You will observe, that a reference is made in the letter to the Vizier to your communications, which will of course be renewed in the name and by the direct authority of the Governor-General, and in the spirit of the letter to his Excellency's address, which you will enforce by such further arguments and representations as may be calculated in your judgment to improve and confirm its impression on his Excellency's mind.

9. Of the remaining points adverted to in that letter, there is only one on which it appears necessary to state any observations, namely, the case of Hoosein Alee Khan. It has occurred to the Governor-General in Council, that if the repugnance of the Vizier to restore the stipend to the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan continues to be unalterable, it will be for the interests of Hoosein Alee Khan to accept a compromise, by receiving from his Excellency, for his own use and that of his immediate family, a proportion (one-fourth for example) of the original stipend. This is stated for your consideration, and you are authorized to accede to an arrangement framed on this principle, if you judge it advisable. You will observe, that the passage in the Governor-General's letter relating to this point is so expressed as to leave it in your power to offer or accept a compromise, or to insist on a compliance with the original requisition, as you may think advisable.

10. The Governor-General has called on the Vizier to render justice to Alee Nuckee Khan without any further delay, referring to your letter of the 30th of April, as containing the result of his Lordship's deliberate judgment on that question. His Lordship in Council has only adverted generally to the questions relating to the two Begums, the grievance of the Company's Sepoys, and the employment of our troops in the pursuit and apprehension of banditti. Those points being either satisfactorily arranged, or in a fair train of adjustment, it has been thought advisable to avoid any irritating reference to what has passed. There is only one point on which his Lordship has thought it necessary again to urge the Vizier, namely, the restitution of the possessions of Shums-oon-Nissa Begum at Dehli. You will be pleased to renew your application to his Excellency on this subject, and to recommend to the Begum the appointment of a person to take charge of them. You will, of course, receive every practicable assistance from the Resident at Dehli in effecting this arrangement, if his interference shall be necessary.

11. The Governor-General has addressed answers to the letters from the two Begums, received with your despatches on the 5th, 12th, and 25th September 1812, to the Persian Secretary. English copies of those answers are enclosed, and

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and the originals will be forwarded to you by the Persian Secretary as soon as they can be prepared.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
2d July 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

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EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 30th July 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. Be pleased to submit to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council the enclosed copies and translations of letters which have passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, and copies of letters which I have addressed to her Highness the younger Begum, and to the Judge and Magistrate of Elahabad, descriptive of the final adjustment of her Highness's claim on the Vizier for the daily supply of her table, and of the terms of the commutation of her jagier for an annual stipend in money.

2. This highly satisfactory result of a long protracted and most unpleasant discussion between the British Government and his Excellency the Vizier, having for its object his Excellency's concession of the just rights of the Begum, and his attention to the calls of humanity in her behalf, cannot fail to be agreeable to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council; and I congratulate his Lordship in Council on the happy conclusion of the business, as produced by my negotiation under his Lordship in Council's commands.

3. I take this opportunity of reporting my having quitted Lucknow on the morning of the 13th instant, in progress towards Fyzabad, where I expect to arrive on the morrow.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mohummudpoor,
16th July, 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 30th June, 1813.)

In my last letter to your Excellency on the subject of the jagier and supplies of her Highness the younger Begum, I apprized you of my intention to summon the revenue officers of the jagier to Lucknow, to require from them an accurate statement of its revenue for the current Fusly year, attested by their signatures and seals, and to send them to the Presence with that statement, to satisfy your Excellency of its accuracy. I also promised to submit to your Excellency a proposal regarding the compensation for her Highness's supplies, which should be calculated to prevent loss to either party, to afford satisfaction to her Highness, and to promote your Excellency's reputation.

Your Excellency was pleased to assure me, in reply to that letter, that my proposal should be honoured by your consent: and now, that the collections of the revenue of the jagier are at an end, and the whole of its revenue, according to the settlement for the present year, has been realized, I have the honour of transmitting to your Excellency two abstracts of the wasil-baukee account, signed and sealed by the Chowdree, Ahmud Oolla, with the deposition of that officer to the accuracy of the account, taken in my presence: twenty-nine kuboleeats by the Zemindars for land revenue, twenty-five obligations for nuzurana, eight kuboleeats for saeer duties, and a statement of the expense of collections under the seal of the Aumil of the jagier. The Chowdree, Ahmud Oolla, attends your Excellency with this letter, to attest the correctness of its enclosures: and from these documents it will appear to your Excellency, in the clearest and most satisfactory manner, that the net revenue of the jagier, as realized by the present Aumil, after deducting all the charges on the revenue, such as nankar and other exemptions and fees, with the exception of the charges of collection,

is the sum of Lucknow Sicca Rupees 37,698. 14 annas per annum. Now the charges of collection on the above sum, as originally stated by your Excellency, at the rate of ten per centum on the revenue, would amount to 5,769 rupees, 14 annas, 9 pice; whereas the actual expense incurred by her Highness the Begum on this account, as stated by her Highness's Amil, is only 1,852 rupees, 10½ annas: a sum so far inferior to the amount of your Excellency's demand, as to render an accommodation between you impracticable, without considerable concessions by both. But the difference between your Excellency and her Highness on the other important point, namely, the value of her Highness's supplies, is equally irreconcilable with the former; your Excellency having stated it as 63 rupees per diem, and her Highness demanding 125. My sole and uniform object in the part which I have taken in this discussion from its commencement, was to give satisfaction to both the personages concerned in it to the utmost practicable extent; to provide a suitable maintenance for her Highness the Begum, without loss to your Excellency; and by securing the future ease and comfort of her Highness's life, in whatever country her residence might be fixed, to exalt your Excellency's reputation. The accommodation which I have now to propose seems, to my impartial judgment, to be better calculated than any other that I could devise, to accomplish those desirable ends. It is to take the mean ratio between your Excellency's statement and her Highness's, on both the questions at issue; that is, to fix the charge of collecting the revenue of her Highness's jagier at a moiety of the aggregate amount of your Excellency's demand, and her Highness's offer, or the sum of 3,811 rupees, 4 annas, and 2 pice per annum, to be deducted from the gross amount of the collection; and, on the same principle, to fix the daily allowance, in lieu of her Highness's supply of provisions, at the sum of 94 sicca rupees, or a moiety of the aggregate amount of your Excellency's offer and her Highness's demand. Thus the net amount of the revenue of the jagier to be annually paid by your Excellency to her Highness the Begum will be the sum of 53,887 rupees, 9 annas, and 9½ pice, and the yearly amount of the compensation in lieu of supplies to her Highness's kitchen, for twelve lunar months or 354 days, will be the sum of 33,276 rupees; making together the yearly sum of 87,163 rupees, 9 annas, and 9½ pice, or per mensem 7,263 rupees, 10 annas, and 1 pic. On your Excellency's agreeing to pay this sum into the Honourable Company's treasury monthly, on account of her Highness the Begum, I am prepared to give your Excellency possession of her Highness's jagier.

But as the whole of the revenue for the current fusly year has been already collected by her Highness's servants, while the compensation for her Highness's supplies is in arrear from the commencement of this year of the Hijjree, or for a period of nine lunar months, during which your Excellency has paid only Rupees 4,662 on account, it follows, that the arrear of the compensation in question at the rate now submitted, or the sum of 20,295 rupees, was actually due by your Excellency at the close of the last month, and should now be paid to her Highness, whose exigencies are said to be pressing; and further, that the sum of 94 rupees per diem must be paid to her Highness hereafter, from the 1st of the present month till the 14th of the month of Rumzaun, corresponding with the 1st of Kooar in the ensuing fusly year; when, in the terms of my present proposal, your Excellency's payment of the monthly instalments of Rupees 7,263. 10. 1. to her Highness the Begum will commence.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 9th July 1813.)

I have received your letter dated 29th of Jemadée-oo-sanee (30th June), on the subject of the commutation of the younger Begum's jagier and supplies for a fixed allowance in money, with all the documents enclosed in it, agreeably to the separate list. I agree to what you have written, and send to you the sum of 20,295 rupees, being the arrears of the daily allowance for provisions up till the 1st of the month of Jemadée-oo-sanee, after deducting the sum which I sent to you formerly on her Highness the Begum's account. The allowance

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Letter
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allowance in lieu of provisions from the 1st of Rujub, and the monthly instalments on account of the revenue of the jagier from the beginning of the month of Kooar in the ensuing Fusly year 1221, or from the 14th of the month of Rumzaun, 1228 Hijjuree, shall be paid to you regularly in future : and now that this business is settled, you will give my Aumil possession of the jagier.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To her Highness the Begum Shums-oon-Nissa. (Written 10th July 1813.)

I have had the honour to receive your Highness's letter, dated the 2d instant, expressive of your anxiety regarding the adjustment of your claims against the Government of his Excellency the Vizier, and I have fully understood the contents of it.

It is superfluous to assure your Highness that my best endeavours have been generally exerted in your behalf since the commencement of your unhappy differences with his Excellency, and more particularly, with a reference to your jagier and your claim for the supply of your table, that I have strenuously laboured to bring those two questions to a speedy and satisfactory adjustment.

Your Highness is aware of the arguments which his Excellency originally used to defeat your claim for supplies. He observed, that a table-allowance could never be demanded from him by a person who had retired from his dominions ; that while your Highness resided with him he had furnished the usual supplies for your table daily, but that, from the day of your quitting his capital, he had considered the obligation to do so as entirely abrogated and annulled, and that nothing but his respect for your Highness, and the expected intercession of our Government in your behalf, could have induced him to continue the allowance for a single day after your departure to the jagier. That his servants had attended your Highness to your jagier, and had furnished the usual supplies for the daily consumption of your table, till your Highness had been pleased to dismiss them, and to direct the provision of those supplies at your own charge by your servants, a measure, on the part of your Highness, which completely exonerated his Excellency, in his own judgment, from all further trouble or expense on this account.

In short, it was his Excellency's manifest intention to withhold any further supply for the use of your Highness's table, and to refuse the smallest compensation on this account ; and nothing but my repeated and earnest intercession, supported by the strongest remonstrances on the part of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, could have induced his Excellency to enter into a discussion of your Highness's claim. His Excellency consented at length to grant a certain allowance in money, 63 rupees per diem, as your Highness was informed, in lieu of the provisions in question ; but my regard for your Highness's comfort occasioned my rejection of this sum, and my persistence in a vexatious discussion with his Excellency in your Highness's behalf, till he was pleased to convey to me a promise of being guided by my decision on the extent of your Highness's claim, with a reference to the supply of your table, on the condition of my agreeing for your Highness to the transfer of the jagier to his Excellency for an annual stipend in money, proportioned to the revenue of the jagier.

Under the authority which your Highness had conferred on me, and sensible of the great advantages which an arrangement of this nature must produce, I had no hesitation whatever in consenting to his Excellency's proposal ; and I directed your Highness's Vakeel to summon the revenue officers of the jagier to Lucknow in the month of March last, for the purpose of ascertaining its revenue, with the view of concluding this arrangement.

The Vakeel objected to this measure in March last, on grounds which I thought it proper to admit ; and the conclusion of the arrangement was
suspended

suspended with your Highness's knowledge and consent, till the whole of the revenue of the year for the current year should be realized.

Ahmud Ali, Chowdree of the jagier, has recently arrived at Lucknow, and has submitted the revenue accounts in a number of separate documents, a list of which is enclosed. Those documents have been submitted to the Vizier, and the Chowdree has attended to attest them; and after a long discussion between his Excellency and me on the subject, the whole of the revenue of the jagier, as asserted by your Highness's officers, supported in statements by me, has been finally admitted by his Excellency, and your Highness's rights have been maintained.

With regard, however, to the charge of collection, a considerable difficulty has arisen in reconciling the different statements of his Excellency and your Highness's Amil.

The established charge of collection throughout the Vizier's dominions, and also in the Company's territory, is known to be ten per centum on the gross amount of the revenue, which would have constituted a heavy deduction from the amount of your Highness's income; and it has proved a most arduous task upon my part, in combining the settlement of this question with the adjustment of your Highness's claim on account of the supplies for your table, to conclude an arrangement with the Vizier, which should not only preclude loss to your Highness, but be far more advantageous, on the whole, than the original state of your affairs, as securing a larger income for the future than your Highness has hitherto enjoyed.

For the details of the arrangement that has been concluded, I refer your Highness to the two separate documents enclosed, and to the verbal explanation of your agent. The annual amount of the compensation for your Highness's provisions has been fixed at the sum of 33,276 rupees, and the net revenue of the jagier at the sum of 53,887 rupees, 9 annas, and $9\frac{1}{2}$ pice per annum. His Excellency the Vizier has agreed to pay the aggregate of the two sums above stated to your Highness regularly every future year; and he has now sent to me, on your Highness's account, the sum of 24,957 rupees, as the arrears of the compensation for supplies for a period of nine months, commencing with the first of Shuvvaul, and ending on the last day of Jemadee-oos-sanee in the present year of the Hijjree.

A copy of his Excellency's letter to my address, announcing his consent to this arrangement, is transmitted for your Highness's information; and I have further the honour of transmitting to you my draft on the Collector of Elahabad for the sum of Lucknow Rupees 24,957, payable ten days after sight, when your Highness's servants will receive it. The monthly allowance for supplies, at the rate above stated, will be regularly paid to your Highness till the commencement of the ensuing fussy year, or till the 14th of the month of Rumzaun, when the instalments of the aggregate sum of 87,163 rupees, 9 annas, and $9\frac{1}{2}$ pice per annum, or Rupees 7,263,10 per mensem, will commence.

I congratulate your Highness most cordially on the satisfactory adjustment of the only important questions which depended between you and the Vizier, and which the friendship of the British Government for your Highness has thus brought to a happy conclusion.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To T. Fortescue, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Zilla Elahabad.

Sir:

1. A sum of money, Lucknow Sicca Rupees 24,957, having been received from his Excellency the Vizier on account of her Highness the Begum, Shuns-oon-Nissa, I have deemed it to be proper, under the instructions of the Government formerly intimated to you, to grant a draft on the Collector of Elahabad for the sum above-mentioned, payable ten days after sight to her Highness the Begum; or to her order.

2. The

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Consultations,
30 July 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
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2. The Begum's Vakeel having represented to me that her Highness was subjected to loss, on a former occasion, by the receipt of Furruckabad Rupees instead of Lucknow Rupees, which are said to be also current at your Hon. Son, I have thought it proper to state the amount of the remittance on this occasion in my draft on the Collector of Elahabad as in Lucknow Sicca Rupees. This will not, I trust, be productive of any material inconvenience to that Officer, and cannot occasion loss to the Government, because the usual remittance, or monthly supply of money, from the treasuries in the Ceded Provinces to this treasury, is generally subject to a discount, corresponding with the Batta or difference of value in exchange between the coinage of Lucknow and Furruckabad, and this batta is at present nearly three per centum.

3. If I have been misinformed regarding the currency of Lucknow Sicca Rupees at Elahabad, and her Highness the Begum decline to receive Furruckabad Rupees in the room of them, my draft must, of course, be returned, and a reference must be made to the Government regarding the future disposal of the money to be received on her Highness's account, which will amount to the monthly sum of Lucknow Sicca Rupees 7,260, or Lucknow Sicca Rupees 87,120 per annum.

4. I beg the favour of your making the necessary communication on the subject of this dispatch to the Collector of Zilla Elahabad, and informing me of the result at your earliest convenience.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th July, 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th instant, reporting the final adjustment of her Highness the younger Begum's claim on his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier for table allowance, and the terms of the commutation of her jagier for an annual stipend in money, and transmitting copies of your correspondence with the Vizier, the Begum, and the Magistrate of Elahabad on that subject.

2. The Governor-General in Council has received with sentiments of sincere and cordial satisfaction, the intelligence of the accomplishment of those very desirable objects; and I am directed to signify to you the entire approbation of his Lordship in Council of the tenor of your correspondence above adverted to, and of the very able and judicious manner in which you have conducted to a successful close the negotiation of this very troublesome point of discussion with his Excellency.

I have, &c.

Fort William,
30th July 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
3 Sept. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 3d September 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. The eunuch, Tuhseen Alee Khan, who has so long and so deservedly enjoyed the favour and protection of our Government, is now, to every appearance, in the last stage of his existence, and will probably have ceased to exist before this letter, or an arzee which he has just now sent to me to the address of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, can be submitted to the notice of the Government.

2. With his arzee to my Lord Minto's address, Tuhseen Alee Khan has sent a letter to me, a translation of which is enclosed; and I perform an act of humanity,

humanity, at least, if I do not discharge an essential obligation of my public duty, in recommending the subject of this letter to the most favourable consideration of the Government.

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Consultations,
3 Sept. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. By a despatch from the Persian department, under date the 4th of September last, I was instructed to offer to Tuhseen Alee Khan the Honourable Company's guarantee of the payment of a small pension to be assigned from his own funds to one of his confidential servants; for whom, and for some relations and other dependants of the eunuch to be placed under that person's charge, the protection of the British Government was requested.

4. The nature of the communication, which I made to Tuhseen Alee Khan on that occasion, has doubtless suggested to his mind the terms of the letter, which has now been addressed to me (a translation of which is enclosed), and the disposition of property which it conveys. The whole amount of his personal property, as referred to in this letter, cannot exceed the sum of a lac and half of rupees, and can scarcely be an object to the Vizier, if the possession of it could be justly demanded by his Excellency to the prejudice of the needy relations and dependants of the proprietor, to whom the amount has been bequeathed. But the right of Tuhseen Alee Khan to dispose, in the manner described, of the trifling remainder of his property acquired in the service of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and reduced to its present amount by the unkindness and illiberality of the Vizier, seems to me to be almost unquestionable, and to be fully supported by the rules of Mohummudan law, though not by the practice of Mussulmans under the arbitrary government of the Vizier. His Excellency's right, on the other hand, to resume the possession of the jagier which Tuhseen Alee Khan has hitherto enjoyed, seems to me to be equally unquestionable; and I have discouraged every hope, on the part of Tuhseen and his heirs, of their enjoying any portion of the jagier after his death.

5. The office of Nazir of the khoord muhl, when vacated by the death of Tuhseen Alee Khan, will be conferred by her Highness the Bhow Begum, as a matter of course, on some person of her Highness's selection; but the question of the future superintendence and payment of the stipends of the subordinate women and reputed children of the late Nawaub, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, hitherto exercised by Tuhseen Alee Khan under the guarantee of the British Government, seems to merit the early consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and to require his Lordship's instructions for the guidance of my conduct on the occasion of Tuhseen's demise.

6. I solicit the favour of an early communication of the sentiments and orders of the Government on this latter question, and regarding my acceptance or rejection of the trust which Tuhseen Alee Khan would impose on me, with a view to the protection of his dependants.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
24th Aug. 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Meeah Tuhseen Alee Khan. (Received the 24th August 1813.)

Your uniform kindness to me, on all occasions, far exceeds the power of language to express; and God is my witness, that the cap of my devotion to your will has ever been the ornament of my head, as well as the greatest boast of my heart. The sincere gratitude which I feel for the obligations which you have conferred on me can only cease with my life. Day after day, and by night too, I offer up my prayers to God for the increase of your happiness and prosperity, and the prolongation of your valuable life.

The present state of my health and my bodily weakness are such as to preclude every hope of recovery, save by the immediate interposition of the divine mercy; and having hitherto, on all occasions, experienced the favour and protection of the British Government, and ascribing the long duration of my existence in this transitory world solely to the ease and tranquillity which I have enjoyed under the protection of the Honourable Company, whose most willing

Letter from
Tuhseen Alee
Khan.

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8 Sept. 1818.

Letter
from Tuhseen Alee
Khan.

and faithful servant and dependant I have ever been, I look up with confidence to your friendship in this last stage of my existence, for the continuance of these blessings to my friends and relations after my death ; and, with this view, while yet in complete possession of my intellects, and of every other legal qualification to dispose of my property by bequest (praised be God for the same), in the hope of a continuance of that protection and kindness from you to my relations, after my decease, which you have uniformly extended to me while living, I humbly submit my request that you will accept and exercise the trust of executor and guardian of this my last will and testament, in the manner under-written, *viz.* :

Whereas Chutra Mull Set,h, my late brother, had long ago expended on my account, or restored to me, all the money and property which he ever had of mine, and owed me nothing at the time of his death, nay long before that event, while in the fullest possession of every mental faculty, we settled our accounts with each other, consequently I have no claim upon him or his heirs whatever, nor are they to be called to account in my name. On the contrary, after settling accounts, I became indebted to my said brother deceased for many sums of money and other benefits which he conferred on me, and on this account, as well as from our relationship, his wife and his daughters and daughter-in-law, with two little boys his grandsons, named Kedar Nath and Lalljee, who are all residing in a house built with his own money, have been taken under my protection, and I have maintained them hitherto as my own.

All my money and valuables are contained in the three houses undermentioned, *viz.*, the house I now occupy contiguous to the palace of Furabuksh, a house in the Punj Muhuleh, and a third near to the old Dowlut Khāna. No money nor property belonging to me has ever been deposited in any other place, nor in the possession of any of my relations or friends. I possess two other houses ; one of them near to Wuzeerbaugh, the other in Teekeet Gunge, contiguous to Nishatbaugh, and I have also a garden at Becjnora.

It is my wish and expectation from your favour, that immediately after my death the whole of my household furniture, plate, and valuables, with the five houses and gardens above described, my elephants, horses, camels, hackeries, and other property of every description, be disposed of, under your authority, by public sale, and the proceeds be deposited in the Honourable Company's treasury and vested in its funds, the interest on the amount to be distributed monthly among my relations and friends, as particularly specified hereafter, and continued in perpetuity to them and their heirs for ever, so as to preserve them from indigence or want, that they may pray for you their benefactor.

My grand-nephews, Kendar Nath and Lalljee, who are infants, I commit to your especial guardianship, and I confidently hope and trust that your friendly aid and protection will always be extended to them, and to their mother and grandmother, and in a word to all my connexions, so that no injury nor loss may befall them.

For the purpose of my interment I long ago purchased a piece of ground in the Chouk, near to the Akburee Duravāzeh, on which I erected a musjid, puckha bazar, and stable, at my own exclusive expense, and have uniformly distributed the rents of all those buildings in charity among the durveishes attached to the musjid. To this ground it is my earnest desire, and I rely on your goodness for its accomplishment, that when I die my body may be removed in a respectable and creditable manner, and buried within the compound or area of the bazar, and that a puckha monument may be erected over my grave with a part of the money to be produced by the sale of my property and deposited in the Honourable Company's treasury. The rent of the shops in the bazar and musjid, as hitherto collected by the servants of my deceased brother, Chutra Mull Set,h, and distributed by them among the durveishes, to be collected in like manner after my death, and appropriated to the support of the durveishes attached to the musjid and tomb ; and, in addition to the amount of the rent so collected, I further bequeath the sum of Sicca Rupees 600 per annum from the interest of my money in the Honourable Company's funds, to defray the expenses of the inohurram, and of the anniversary of my death and interment.

Sheikh

Sheikh Shuhab-ood-Deen, my old and confidential servant, and my accredited agent with the British Government, in constant attendance on you, having served me faithfully and honestly, and conducted himself to my entire satisfaction, without interfering in my pecuniary concerns, I give and bequeath to him, and to his heirs and successors for ever, a monthly allowance of Sicca Rupees 200, to be paid from the interest of my money vested in the Honourable Company's funds; and I commit him to the fostering care and protection of the British Government and to your kind patronage, which I earnestly solicit in his behalf.

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3 Sept. 1812.

Letter
from Tuhseen Alee
Khan.

To Aftaub Raee, also an old friend, who has served me faithfully and honestly in the capacity of Moonshee, and never intermeddled with my money matters or property of any description, I give and bequeath an allowance of Sicca Rupees 50 per mensem, in perpetuity, from the interest of my money, as above; and I solicit the British Government to protect him, on all occasions, for my sake.

Here follows a list of all my bequests, to be paid from the interest of my money in the Honourable Company's funds, making a total amount of Sicca Rupees 575 per mensem, or per annum Sicca Rupees 6,900.

Sheikh Shuhab-ood-Deen has always received his monthly allowances from my own hand, and I consider him as one of my best and most valued friends; Moonshee Aftaub Raee is also a very old and confidential servant; and I request that the monthly stipends of both these persons be paid to them and their heirs for ever from the Honourable Company's treasury directly, out of the interest of the proceeds of my sale, to be vested in the funds of the Company. The remainder of the interest of my property to be paid to Kedar Nath and Lalljee, the grandchildren of Chutra Mull Set, h, my brother deceased, to whom I intrust the payment of all the other provisions abovementioned, and who will appropriate the residue of the interest as a personal provision for themselves, their heirs and successors, who are hereby constituted and declared to be my heirs and residuary legatees. The receipts of Sheikh Shuhab-ood-Deen and Aftaub Raee, for their monthly stipends, will be presented by these persons themselves at the Honourable Company's treasury, and a receipt for the residue of the interest or surplus income of my property, under the seals of Kedar Nath and Lalljee, or their heirs, will be presented by Shuhab-ood-Deen, my Vakeel, through whom the money should be paid.

I intreat, as a last favour, your acceptance of this trust, the executorship of my last will and testament, which I beg you to retain in your possession. I have directed an inventory of all my property to be made, and it shall be sent to you in the course of a few days.

My sole hope and trust are in the British Government, whose devoted servant I am and shall be till my last breath.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 24th ultimo, enclosing the translation of a letter to your address from Tuhseen Alee Khan, respecting the disposition of his property after his death, and soliciting the protection of the British Government to his surviving relations and dependents. The arzee addressed by Tuhseen Alee Khan to the Governor-General has also been received.

2. The long and intimate intercourse which has subsisted between Tuhseen Alee Khan and successive Residents at the court of the Vizier, his known attachment to the British Government, the services which he has rendered, and the hazard to which he has been exposed in performing what he deemed to be his duty

Bengal Political
Consultations,
8 Sept. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

duty to the allied Governments on a memorable occasion, and the great respectability of his character and conduct, constitute claims on the countenance and support of the British Government which appear to the Governor-General in Council to warrant the decisive interference of the Government in favour of his surviving relations and dependants, and for the protection of his property (exclusive of the jagier which is, of course, resumable at his death), in order to give effect to the disposition which he has made of it.

3. The Governor-General in Council will therefore approve of your adoption of the measures which may appear to you best calculated to accomplish the purposes of the will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and authorizes you to apprise his Excellency the Vizier, at such time as you may judge it to be expedient, that you are in possession of instructions from Government to the above effect, stating to his Excellency the grounds on which the Governor-General in Council deems it to be the right of the British Government to extend its protection to Tuhseen Alee Khan, and setting before his Excellency the powerful motives of consideration for that person's long and faithful services to his family, and more especially to himself, which ought to restrain him from any opposition to an arrangement perfectly just in itself and sanctioned by the dying request of Tuhseen.

4. It appears to his Lordship in Council to be desirable, that on the occurrence of the decease of Tuhseen you should take measures, without delay, for securing his property from injury and dilapidation, and for retaining it under your own charge, until an opportunity shall offer of disposing of it in pursuance of the directions contained in his will.

5. The Governor-General in Council is satisfied that your proceedings, under these instructions, will be regulated no less by a desire to fulfil the just expectations of Tuhseen Alee Khan, sanctioned by the British Government, than by every practicable endeavour to reconcile the Vizier to them.

6. His Lordship in Council regrets the necessity, which is unhappily established by the character and conduct of the Vizier, of founding his instructions, on the present occasion, on the anticipation of his Excellency's desire to appropriate the comparatively insignificant amount of property, acquired in the course of a long life devoted to the service of his family, and would willingly indulge the hope that an appeal to the common principles of gratitude, justice, and honour, would induce his Excellency voluntarily to give effect to the provisions of the will. However feeble such a hope may be, it will at all events be proper, in the first instance, to assume that his Excellency is susceptible of these principles with relation to Tuhseen Alee Khan, and consequently to frame your earlier representations to his Excellency on that basis, reserving for the case of his determined opposition to the dispositions of the will, a more decisive and energetic exertion of the influence of the Government which you represent.

7. By the decease of Tuhseen Alee Khan the superintendence of the khoord muhl of the late Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah, and also of the muhl of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah and of his reputed children, will become vacant. The charge of the first-mentioned establishment will be conferred, of course, on some person of the election of her Highness the Bhow Begum, whose right to the management of it, in conformity to the tenor of the engagement executed by the Vizier in 1798, under the guarantee of the British Government, admits of no dispute, and has lately been again distinctly recognized.

8. With regard to the muhl of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah and to that Prince's reputed children, whom his Excellency the Vizier is bound by treaty to maintain, the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the most expedient arrangement would be for his Excellency, in concert with you, to nominate a proper person to the charge of the establishment in question. The Governor-General in Council understands, that shortly after the accession of the Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan to the Musnud, an allowance of one lac of rupees was assigned by his Excellency, under the guarantee of the Resident, for the maintenance of the reputed children of his brother and the females belonging to the muhl, but that

that this sum is considerably reduced in consequence of the death of several of them, and that a great degree of distress prevails among the survivors. It would be worthy of his Excellency's liberality and justice to revise the distribution of the allowance in question, and to apportion it according to the age and the wants of the parties, and to allot the surplus which will remain to the establishment of a fund to meet the necessary expenses of the marriages, and other domestic occurrences, among the reputed children of the late Vizier, and for the relief of the indigent relatives of the women of the muhl.

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3 Sept. 1813.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

9. With respect to the participation of the Government in the appointment of a person to superintend the establishment in the room of Tuhseen Alee Khan, the Governor-General in Council considers the obligation imposed on the British Government, by the spirit of the 16th article of the treaty of 1798, to warrant a degree of interference which shall ensure the due execution of that article; but it will neither be just nor expedient to extend it beyond the approval of the person who may be selected by the Vizier. The proposed revision of the allowance is believed to be indispensably requisite for the relief of the distress experienced by the women and reputed children of Asuf-ood-Dowlah; and their actual condition, and the circumstance of their maintenance, being a provision of a treaty to which the Company is a party, entitle the Government to call on the Vizier to accede to the proposed arrangement.

10. The Governor-General in Council is therefore pleased to desire, that you will make an application to his Excellency to the foregoing effect in the name of the British Government, and endeavour by every effort of persuasion and argument to induce his Excellency to carry it into execution. The course of argument to be pursued will readily present itself to your mind, and render it unnecessary to enter into any detail on that part of the subject.

11. As no record of the engagement, above referred to, for the support of the muhl of Asuf-ood-Dowlah can be traced on the proceedings of Government, I am directed to desire that you will extract the necessary information on the subject from the records of the Residency, and transmit it to me for the purpose of being submitted to his Lordship.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
3d September 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 10th September 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. With real concern I report to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, the death of Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan. He died at five o'clock yesterday evening, and was buried this morning in the place pointed out by his will, with every demonstration of respect for his character and sorrow for his death, on the part of the dependants of the British Government residing at Lucknow, who accompanied his remains to the grave.

2. The enclosed is a translation of a letter which I received from his Excellency the Vizier, at the instant at which the death of Tuhseen was announced to me by my hurkarra, who is stationed at his gate. A copy of my answer to his Excellency's letter is also transmitted by this despatch.

3. On a retrospect and more mature consideration of the contents of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, I am apprehensive that the provision of it, by which his grand-nephews (being Hindoos) are declared to be his residuary legatees, cannot be supported nor maintained according to the tenets of the Mohummudan law, which pronounces infidelity, as it is termed by Mussulmans, or a difference of religion between the ancestor and the heir, to be a barrier to the right of succession; and, under this view of the question, if his Excellency the Vizier

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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should insist on his right to the residue of the estate, though the claim would be illiberal and unworthy, it must, I fear, be admitted by our Government.

4. The Vizier did me the honour to breakfast with me this morning, and I had a long conference with his Excellency; but he said little on the subject of Tuhseen Alee Khan's demise, and nothing whatever with a reference to the future disposal of his property.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
28th August 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 27th August, 5 P. M.)

The death of Tuhseen Alee Khan has just now been reported to me, and therefore I write to inform you, that with a view to the safety of his property, whatever you advise shall be done, that no part of it may be lost.

Let me have an immediate answer. I have ordered Moozuffer Alee Khan to superintend his funeral.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 27th August 1813.)

I have received your Excellency's letter, announcing the melancholy event of the death of that old and faithful servant and well-wisher of both States, Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan. I lament the death of Tuhseen with sincere and genuine sorrow. With a view to the protection of his property, I suggest to your Excellency, for the present, that the small guard of the Hon. Company's sepoy which has long been posted at his house be increased, and instructed to prevent any person from removing or interfering with the property, save by your Excellency's orders and mine.

About five days ago, despairing of the eunuch's recovery, I reported his condition, and all the circumstances regarding him that had then come to my knowledge, for the information and orders of the Government; and I have reason to expect a reply, containing particular instructions for my guidance, in the course of a fortnight or twenty days. Till then, I submit to your Excellency that the measure above proposed is all that can be proper or advisable.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 28th August, reporting the demise of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and the communications which have passed between you and his Excellency the Vizier, relative to his property.

2. The Governor-General has learned with concern the decease of a person whose zealous and faithful services to the family of the Vizier, and attachment to the British Government, have always entitled him to peculiar consideration and regard.

3. The instructions conveyed to you in my despatch of the 3d instant will apprise you of the measures which you are authorized to take, for the purpose of securing to the surviving relations and dependants of Tuhseen Alee Khan the enjoyment of his property, according to the distribution of it prescribed in his letter addressed to you a few days before his death. The circumstance adverted to in the third paragraph of your letter now acknowledged, does not appear to require any change of resolution in that respect, since the determination

tion of the Governor-General in Council, as stated in that despatch, was founded, as you will have remarked, not on the supposed right of Tuhseen Ale Khan, according to the Mohummudan law, to devise his property in the manner described in his letter (for by that law Tuhseen, if considered as a slave, is debarred from the privilege of any testamentary disposition of property), but on the right and duty of the British Government, under the circumstances of the case, to exercise its influence and authority, to induce the Vizier to renounce his claim to the property of the old and faithful servant of his family, in favour of the persons to whom the deceased desired to leave it, and to afford its protection and support to those individuals.

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from Secretary to
Government.

4. The arrangement made in concert with the Vizier for the custody of the property, and the suspension (which his Lordship in Council understands the Vizier to have agreed to) of any further proceedings until the receipt of a reply to your reference, are entirely satisfactory to Government. With a view to mark the respect of the Government for the memory of the late Tuhseen Ale Khan, it is the desire of his Lordship in Council that you should confer khillats of condolence on the grand-nephews of Tuhseen, and on Sheikh Shuhab-ood-Deen, who formerly attended you as his Vakeel; but as it would be proper that this mark of regret and esteem for the deceased should be bestowed in concurrence with his Excellency the Vizier, the Governor-General in Council desires that you will suggest to his Excellency the propriety of marking his sense of Tuhseen's merits and services by a similar token, and endeavour, if necessary, to overcome by argument and representation any objection which he may oppose to it. If your efforts should be unsuccessful, his Lordship in Council authorizes you either to invest the persons in question with khillats on the part of the British Government, or to refer the question for the consideration of Government, and suspend any step of the nature adverted to until you shall receive his Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
10th September 1813

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 17th September 1813.

To the Right Hon. Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord :

1. Before my departure to Fyzabad I had several conferences with the Vizier, at which I laboured by every argument that I could think of, and with all the powers of reasoning that I possess, to convince his Excellency's mind of the justice and necessity of his compliance with your Lordship in Council's demands having reference to the reform of his Government, and to the other points in discussion which remain to be adjusted with his Excellency.

I have renewed those exertions since my return, with the aid and under the influence of your Lordship in Council's instructions, conveyed by the Secretary's despatch under date the 2d July last; and in the spirit of the letter to his Excellency, an English copy of which was transmitted by the Secretary for my guidance. The original letter in Persian, under your Lordship's signature and seal, has not yet been received.

2. The Vizier has been long in the habit of listening in silence to my discourse on every question of importance on which his feelings are at variance with my counsels, more especially on the question of reform, and of professing his adherence to treaty as an answer to every argument that I adduce, in a manner, too, the most vexatious and irritating, because his professions are in direct opposition to the whole course of his actions, except when influenced by my immediate control, through the operation of fear on his mind.

3. The

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3. The true meaning of his Excellency's language with a reference to the question of reform is, in my judgment, as follows: "Let me have the whole of your system and regulations, the system which prevails in the Ceded Provinces, as promised by Lord Wellesley, at once, that I may examine it carefully, and see if it corresponds with the terms of the treaty: that is, if its adoption in this country be compatible with the exercise of my independent authority, the authority of an absolute ruler. If I find it so, I will carry it into effect, through the medium of my own officers, without any interference on your part, save by the aid of your military power to support the measures which I direct, to enforce the authority of my officers in the execution of my despotic commands." So that, by his Excellency's interpretation of the treaty, the Honourable Company's guarantee, and the power of the British Government, are no more than the engines of his despotism. We are to be excluded from any share in his counsels, beyond the duty of submitting a plan for the better administration of his affairs, which he is at liberty to approve or reject, thus protracting the negotiation at his pleasure; and, if he approve, is at liberty to execute in the manner which he may think proper, with the aid of the British troops, to be always ready at his call, and bound to enforce his authority, without any investigation of the purposes, whether just or rapacious, to which that authority may be applied.

4. That such is the intention of the Vizier, has been demonstrated by the whole course of his proceedings since the conclusion of the Treaty of Cession, and more particularly by his discussions with me on the important subject of reform; which latter, although productive of his declared acquiescence at one stage of the negotiation in the principal measures proposed to him, were no sooner discovered to militate against the exercise of a despotic authority for purposes unjust and rapacious, than his solemn acquiescence was withdrawn, by an effort of prevarication and evasion as unworthy of his Excellency's understanding as consistent with his uniform conduct.

5. In a letter received from the Vizier on the 21st of June last, a translation of which is inclosed, your Lordship in Council will observe that his Excellency expressly disavows the obligation of his written acquiescence in any of the measures of reform, and describes the instrument which conveyed it as no more than a statement of answers to certain propositions on my part, which he was at liberty to abide by or depart from, as circumstances might afterwards suggest. The other observations in his letter having reference to the difficulty of executing the proposed reforms in his government, and their tendency to subvert his authority, are demonstrative of the intention ascribed to him, and of the true meaning of his language, as submitted in the third paragraph of this dispatch.

6. His Excellency's construction of the terms of his agreement with Lord Wellesley to regulate the whole of his proceedings by the advice of the British Government, as exhibited in the conclusion of his letter, is worthy of particular notice. In reply to my remark on a former occasion, the truth of which is unquestionable, that no important measure of his administration since the date of the Treaty of Cession has proceeded with the advice of our Government, his Excellency, without controverting the fact, has thought proper to explain it away, as he supposes, and to evade the manifest inference from it, namely, his daily infraction of the treaty, by detracting from the importance of his measures, and pronouncing them to be such as "did not require any previous consultation with our Government;" so that his Excellency's interpretation of this important provision of the treaty, as explained by his agreement with Lord Wellesley, may be stated in the following words: "I am bound to consult with the British officers on such affairs of my Government as may seem to require their advice; but I alone am the judge of the necessity or expediency of consulting them: and on every occasion of my belief that your advice would be contrary to my views, I shall carefully refrain from consulting you, and act as I may think proper; referring to you for advice on occasions where I expect your concurrence, and on all occasions for the support of your troops, which you are bound to afford on my requisition, in the terms of the provision of guarantee."

7. The

7. The wilful and manifest perversion of the spirit and letter of the treaty on which the whole of this reasoning proceeds, cannot be unknown to his Excellency, and has been repeatedly explained to him by me.

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8. In a letter of the 2d July, a copy of which is enclosed, I canvassed his Excellency's arguments, and refuted them, to the best of my judgment, in a manner precluding reply. I compared the form and substance of His Excellency's written acquiescence in the several measures of reform, as conveyed by his letter to my address of the 4th April 1811, with the manner and substance of the agreement concluded with his Excellency by Lord Wellesley: and from this comparison I deduced the obvious and unquestionable inference, that the former was as binding as the latter. I referred to my former demonstrations of the facility of executing the reforms, and of the salutary consequences to result from them, if commenced in a spirit of cordiality, with a wish on the part of his Excellency to promote their general success, and a resolution to seek my concurrence, and to be guided by my respectful advice, in the progress of all the details of them. In reply to his Excellency's desire of "a new system of administration, similar to that which prevails in the Honourable Company's provinces, or any other conformable to treaty," with a view to its immediate adoption, I entreated his Excellency to look back to your Lordship's letter to his address, under date the 28th December 1810, where the outline of a system is described, and then to refer for its details to my written representations to his Excellency, which were first solemnly agreed to and afterwards unhappily rejected. This outline and those details, I observed, formed the only system of administration that could ever be recommended to his Excellency. They were, in all respects, conformable to treaty; had no tendency whatever to diminish his authority or consequence, and the adoption of them in his Excellency's country, his execution of them with my concurrence and advice, were indispensable to the happiness of his subjects, to the security of their persons and property, to the advancement of every true interest of his Government, and of the reputation of both States. His Excellency's apprehensions of a loss of authority or consequence from a compliance with the counsels of our Government, I proved to be imaginary and groundless. But admitting their reality for a moment, I maintained that even this circumstance could form no plausible pretext for a departure from the letter of the treaty, which, in guaranteeing his Excellency's authority, provided expressly for its exercise with our uniform concurrence and advice. With a reference to his Excellency's observation, that "no new or extraordinary affair in the exercise of his authority had occurred to require his consulting our Government," I quoted the words of his agreement with Lord Wellesley, to shew the most palpable fallacy in his reasoning. The "ordinary government of his dominions, the usual exercise of his authority," were expressly subjected by treaty to the influence of the British counsels, which he was solemnly pledged to abide by, and every measure of his Excellency's administration, such as committing a district in farm, establishing a court of justice in his capital, the reform or alteration of any branch of the police of his dominion without the previous concurrence of our Government, could be viewed in no other light than as a direct infraction of the treaty, a manifest departure from his engagement, for the consequences of which he might be made answerable whenever the Government chose; and our tacit acquiescence in which, for a time, could be ascribed to no other motive than extraordinary forbearance and moderation in the exercise of an established right. Setting aside for a moment the obligation on his Excellency to advise with the British Government, and to regulate his proceedings by its advice, I argued on the manifest advantage which must arise to his Excellency's interests from a previous communication and consultation with the British Resident at his Court on every important concern of his government. Concealment, he had often declared to me, to be far from his wish or intention, though unhappily evinced by his practice. The occasional, and, as acknowledged by himself, the too-frequent failure of his arrangements, could only be rectified or repaired by an ultimate reference to our counsels, or an appeal to the power of our arms; and was it not better for his Excellency, more conducive to his essential interests, and to the ease and tranquillity of his mind, to adopt that proceeding, in the first instance, which would insure the success of his measures, by obtaining the concurrence of those whose power alone could enforce them?

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9. My letter to his Excellency the Vizier, containing most of the arguments above noticed, has not hitherto been honoured with a reply, though the evasive remarks to which they were intended as answers have been repeated at every conference since my return, and in a manner the most vexatious and perverse, with the view, as it would seem, of ultimately conquering my patience, and producing a degree of irritation that might lead to some expressions on my part to be misconstrued by his Excellency into disrespect, and form the grounds of a second complaint.

10. This design, on the part of his Excellency, if entertained, has been constantly frustrated; and at our conference on Saturday the 28th instant, which lasted for several hours, his Excellency at length had recourse to expressions of the most abject submission, instead of reasoning, when I brought him to the final alternative of the immediate execution of the several measures of reform originally recommended to him by me, or of producing a written demonstration of their inconsistency with the terms of the treaty.

11. The above is the actual state of my negotiation with his Excellency the Vizier on the important question of reform. The other subjects in dispute, namely, the redress of the grievances of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan and the restoration of the pension to the indigent family of Hyder Beg Khan, are exactly as they stood at the date of my letter on those subjects to the Vizier, a copy of which has been already submitted to the Government, and has been honoured with your Lordship in Council's approbation. His Excellency is aware of this circumstance, but continues to withhold his assent to the measures of justice which I proposed to him, under your Lordship's authority and in your name, and to which it is obvious that he can offer no plausible objection, since he has delayed to reply to my letter.

12. A paper containing some secret intelligence of the proceedings at his Excellency's durbar, since our conference of the 28th instant, as appearing to be worthy of your Lordship in Council's observation, has been transmitted to the Secretary to Government, who will submit the contents of it to your notice. On my receipt of your Lordship's letter to the Vizier I shall lose no time in applying it, with every exertion of zeal, to the purposes for which it is intended.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
30th August 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 21st of June, 1813.)

I have received your letter, dated the 4th of Jemadec-oos-sanee, 1228 Hijjuree (4th June 1813), with a copy of the articles written 9th Rubbee-ool-awul, 1226 Hijjuree (4th April 1811), which were merely answers to certain statements of yours in reply to my letter of the 29th of Jemadec-ool-awul, 1228 Hijjuree (31st May), which contained a copy of the concluding article of my agreement with Lord Wellesley. You have written, that "as my letter is indicative of a "final resolution to adopt the salutary system," &c. (to the end). My acquiescence or rejection of the system in question will have been understood by you from the contents of my letter; but the truth of the matter is this, that if the establishment of the system proposed had not been difficult, it could never have been suspended till now: and even now, I do not see how it can be properly established. As it has of necessity been suspended from its difficulty, and the punishment of the refractory has been suspended in consequence, and I have thereby suffered considerable loss, therefore, contemplating the disordered state of the country, and the great loss, which has arisen from the delay to punish the refractory, and relying, too, on the responsibility which is conveyed by your written assurance of the most cordial and zealous assistance in the commencement and progress of the arrangements, I now write to inform you that I do not refuse to establish in my dominions a system of administration calculated to promote the comfort and happiness of the people, similar to the system which may have been established in the Company's territory, a plan of which was promised to me by Lord Wellesley, or any other conformable to treaty

treaty which may be proposed. But if, in the establishment of that system, any loss shall be occasioned to me, I look to your friendship for reparation; and to a measure that may operate to subvert my authority and power, or to diminish my consequence among the people, to whatever system it may belong, I shall never, on any principle, consent.

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You have written, that "the document which I transmitted was already in your possession; that you have copies of it in English and Persian; that it is ever in your view; that it is quoted in the Governor-General's letter, and forms the basis of all his Lordship's propositions and your's; and that you could never have deviated, nor wished to deviate, from its provisions." In reply to which I observe, that God forbid that there should be any deviation from it, for my strength and confidence are on it alone; and in the same manner as you wish and propose to abide by it, so also, on my side, there has never been the smallest deviation, nor shall there be any in future.

In reply to your remark, that on my part, from the date of the instrument referred to generally, and during the period of your own residence particularly, not a measure of my administration has proceeded with the advice or concurrence of your Government, nor have I ever sought your advice. The case is this: That during the period to which you allude, no new nor extraordinary affair in the administration of my Government has occurred that required my consulting with your Government. I solemnly disavow my recollection of any measure, requiring or deserving consultation with your Government, that has been adopted by me without your previous knowledge and consent. Many measures have been adopted in compliance with your desire, the details of which are not in my recollection; and those which I do recollect, I refrain from noticing, to avoid prolixity and repetition.

In answer to your remark, that the sooner the work of reform be undertaken with your advice the better, I repeat, that whenever a plan, such as I have described above, shall be prepared and presented to me, the establishment of it shall be commenced without delay; for, considering the design which I have in my mind, I must naturally be anxious for the speedy settlement of my country.

I shall reply by a separate letter to your statements of the cases of Hoosein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckee Khan.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 2d July 1813).

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, dated the 21st ultimo, in reply to mine of the 4th. The definition or description which your Excellency has been pleased to assign to the articles of agreement dated the 4th of April 1811 (9th Rubbee-ool-awul 1226), and conveyed to me by a letter of that date under your Excellency's official seal, seems to my judgment to be fully as applicable to the articles of agreement with Lord Wellesley, and indeed to every other arrangement concluded between the two States, as to the instrument to which your Excellency has applied it. The form of the negotiation with Lord Wellesley, on the result of which your Excellency's "strength and confidence," are said to rest, is exactly the form of the negotiation between your Excellency and me, the result of which you have been pleased to disavow; namely, that of answers on the part of Lord Wellesley to requests conveyed by your Excellency, like the answers conveyed by your Excellency to certain propositions on my part, in the name and under the authority of the Government.

The ambiguous nature of the expressions contained in your Excellency's former letter having reference to the proposed system of reform, was adverted to in my answer to that letter; and I am concerned to have occasion to remark,

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

remark, that the same ambiguity of expression, the same disposition to evade a candid and dispassionate discussion of the important question of reform, with a view to its satisfactory adjustment, is observable in, and may be said to pervade, the letter which I am now to reply to.

The difficulty of carrying into effect those reforms of your Excellency's administration, the expediency and necessity of which can no longer admit of a doubt, has been frequently stated by your Excellency, and is insisted on in your letter before me as the only remaining pretext for a delay to acquiesce in our counsels. That this difficulty is entirely imaginary, or that your Excellency's cordial concurrence in the execution of the measures of reform is all that is required to remove it, to facilitate the execution of those measures, and to ensure their successful result, has been demonstrated to your Excellency by me on repeated occasions of conference, as well as in numerous letters. The actual state of the Honourable Company's provinces in which a similar system obtains, is a practical demonstration of this fact, superseding the necessity for argument; and if the experiment had been happily made in your Excellency's country at the time, and in the manner which I proposed, the doubts in your Excellency's mind would long ere now have subsided. A settlement of the revenues of the country, on fair and advantageous terms for your Excellency's subjects and for your Government, would long ago have been made; no material loss nor defalcation of your Excellency's revenue could have arisen; the seeds of disaffection and rebellion among your Excellency's subjects would have been destroyed, and their attachment to your person and Government would have been established on the only solid or permanent basis, that of gratitude for security enjoyed under the influence of a just system of administration.

Those salutary and happy results of your Excellency's cordial acquiescence in the counsels of the British Government, of your firm and constant adherence to the principles of the subsisting alliance, and to the terms of your engagement with Marquess Wellesley, are still in your Excellency's option, with every just and reasonable advantage of the Honourable Company's guarantee, and of our responsibility for the maintenance of your authority, whenever your Excellency may be pleased to demonstrate your acquiescence in those counsels, and your observance of those principles and terms, by commencing and conducting the reform, by proceeding in the exercise of your authority, under the influence and with the aid of our advice.

Your Excellency has been pleased to inform me, that, "contemplating the present disordered state of the country," &c. you no longer refuse to establish a system of administration in your dominions similar to that established in the Company's territory, a plan of which was promised by Lord Wellesley, or any other conformable to treaty, which may be proposed.

But your Excellency must surely be aware that the general outline of a system for the due administration of your revenue, and for the establishment of courts of justice and police, which was conveyed and recommended to your Excellency in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, under date the 28th December 1810, and the details of which were submitted by me, is exactly similar to that which prevails throughout the Company's dominions; a sketch of which was delivered to your Excellency by Lord Wellesley in person, if I mistake not, and which his Lordship promised to explain to your Excellency more fully, and to recommend for adoption in your dominions when experience should have satisfied him of its effects.

This promise has been fulfilled by Lord Minto, in the genuine spirit of friendship for your Excellency, and of regard for the interests of your Government, as well as for the reputation of both States; and your Excellency has only to refer to his Lordship's letter above noticed, and to the written discussions which followed it between your Excellency and me, to be satisfied of the justness of this remark, and of the necessity and expedience of your adopting the system which his Lordship in Council has proposed, and which is perfectly conformable to treaty.

In

In reply to your Excellency's remark, "that if, in the establishment of the system proposed, any loss shall be occasioned to your Government, you look to my friendship for reparation, &c." I have no hesitation in assuring your Excellency, that eventual resistance to your authority in the establishment of the system proposed, and in the execution of all such measures as may be determined on with my previous knowledge and advice, shall in every instance be suppressed by the power of the British troops in your dominions; and that to this extent, and with this just and necessary provision, the Honourable Company's guarantee, the responsibility of the British Government for the internal tranquillity of Oude, and the due realization of its revenue, as well as its external defence, will ever be recognised and acknowledged. A measure subversive of your Excellency's just authority, or having a tendency to diminish your consequence, has never been proposed by our Government, nor ever entered into its contemplation. But if, to offer its advice to your Excellency in the genuine spirit of friendship, and to urge your compliance with that advice on every important occasion, be an attempt to subvert your authority or to lessen your consequence among your subjects, it is my duty in candour to declare, that the right of the British Government to offer its advice to your Excellency, and to expect your compliance with its advice, as well as the obligation on your Excellency to consult with the British Government, and conform to its counsels on all occasions, being established by the spirit and letter of the alliance, cannot be relinquished nor departed from without essential injury to both States, and must ever be asserted and recognized.

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

Your Excellency's repeated declaration of a wish and intention to abide by the terms of the engagement with Marquess Wellesley is entirely satisfactory in itself; but as followed by, and connected with your remark, "that during the period to which I allude no new nor *extraordinary* affair in your Excellency's administration has occurred to require your consulting with our Government," seems, in my judgment, to be qualified in a degree that is not only totally inadmissible, but must be productive of the most injurious consequences, unless immediately obviated and removed.

I can never acquiesce in the interpretation which your Excellency seems disposed to assign to the terms of your engagement with Marquess Wellesley, to consult with the British Government, and to conform to its counsels and advice. The letter of the obligation in question extends "to all affairs connected with the *ordinary* government of your dominions and with the *usual* exercise of your authority," and the limitation of its sense, which has been proposed to "new and extraordinary measures," is in my judgment a total misconstruction, a manifest perversion of its object, which can never be supported nor acquiesced in, and against which it is my duty to protest in the most solemn and unqualified manner. I submit to your Excellency with confidence, as a fair and obvious deduction from the letter of your engagement with Marquess Wellesley, that the grant of a district in farm, the establishment of a court of Adawlut, the reform or alteration of any branch of the police of your Excellency's dominions, however frequently those measures have occurred, without my previous knowledge or concurrence, are measures that unquestionably require your previous consultation with our Government, and your conformity to our advice in the execution of them; and that the execution of such measures as those, like your Excellency's recent arrangements in the districts of Sandee and Beyswarrah, and a number of others which might be noticed in every department of your administration, without previous communication with me, is not only a violation of the engagement concluded between your Excellency and Lord Wellesley, but has an obvious tendency to exonerate the Honourable Company's Government from the obligation to maintain an authority, which, in the spirit of the subsisting alliance, should be uniformly exercised with its advice. The application of the foregoing remark to the important point in discussion, to the commencement and progress of every branch and of each individual measure of the salutary system of reform, is too obvious to require explanation, and should be ever in your Excellency's mind to ensure the success of those measures.

Under the influence and impression of this remark, if your Excellency be pleased to admit it, I entirely agree with your Excellency, that the sooner the

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reform be undertaken the better in every point of view; and the plan of it as referred to in this address is already in your Excellency's possession, its general outline being contained in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter of the 28th of December 1810, and the details of it submitted by me under his Lordship in Council's instructions, and subsequently honoured by his approbation.

I await the receipt of your Excellency's separate letters on the claims of Hoo-sein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckee Khan, with a degree of anxiety proportioned to the interest which the Government feels in the satisfactory adjustment of the claims and redress of the grievances of those persons.

A true copy.:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Secret
Intelligence.

Secret Intelligence from the Durbar: Beebeepore, 29th August 1813.

The Vizier, after quitting the Residency on Saturday, determined to retire to Beebeepore, and came out accordingly this morning. Having summoned Moon-shee Rownuck Alee to his presence, he called for all the papers respecting reform, which the Resident submitted to him long ago, and placed them in the drawer of his writing-table, observing that at the next conference with the Resident it would be determined whether those papers should be acted on or not. It seems that he is waiting to be told by the Resident that such and such measures must be immediately adopted, and that then only he will carry them into effect. At a consultation of yesterday, Hukeem Mehdee observed that a new Governor-General had sailed from England and was daily expected in Calcutta, and that many gentlemen had proceeded to meet him; it seemed, therefore, advisable to delay the execution of any new measures till the arrival of the new Governor-General. The Vizier replied to this remark, that he waited for nothing but a positive requisition from the Resident, which he could no longer attempt to evade.

On the Hukeem's remarking that his Excellency's retreat to Beebeepore was indicative of the weakness of his Government in the minds of the people, the Vizier was totally silent.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the above despatch remain for consideration until the receipt of a further report of the Resident's proceedings.

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15 Oct. 1813.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 15th October 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord :

1. Your Lordship's letter to the address of his Excellency the Vizier, under date the 2d of July last, was received from the Persian department on the 1st instant, and presented to his Excellency on the morning of Saturday, the 4th instant, at his country seat of Dilkoosha, where I had the honour of breakfasting with his Excellency.

2. The nature and tendency of the only remarks and exhortations which could with propriety have accompanied the delivery of such a letter as this to the Vizier must be so apparent to your Lordship in Council, as to supersede the necessity for my repeating them. I continued in conference with his Excellency, after reading some portions of the letter to him, for a space of several hours, during which I laboured assiduously to direct his most serious attention to the important

tant and momentous crisis to which the discussion between him and the British Government had been brought, by his procrastination and evasion on questions that admitted not of dispute.

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3. Your Lordship's letter to his Excellency I described to him as containing a final declaration of the just expectations of the Honourable Company's Government on a number of questions that had been agitated between his Excellency and me for a period of three years, and on each of which his Excellency had taken advantage of the great lenity and forbearance of the British Government, for the purpose of evading demands, the manifest justice of which had been repeatedly demonstrated by arguments that his Excellency was originally unable to combat and had long ceased to oppose. For a recapitulation of those arguments, I referred him to some passages of your Lordship's former letters, and to several letters and memorials transmitted by me to his Excellency; particularly those of the 27th of June 1811, the 15th of January and 29th of August 1812, and the 29th of April, 1st of May, and 2d of July last, scarcely any of which had been honoured with a reply.

4. In reality, I observed to his Excellency, the questions to which those arguments referred did not at any time admit of dispute, and should never have given rise to the discussion which his unhappy disposition had occasioned.

The reform of his Excellency's Government was prescribed by the letter of a treaty, and should have commenced on the conclusion of that treaty. The delay on the part of our Government to propose a specific plan of reform had been accounted for in a satisfactory manner. It had arisen exclusively from a desire to render the system as perfect as possible by experience of its effects in our dominions; and this delay could never obviously have affected, in the smallest degree, the obligation on the part of his Excellency to execute a plan of our suggestion, whenever it should be proposed for his adoption. A specific and unobjectionable plan had been recommended by your Lordship to his Excellency in the beginning of the year 1811, and the details of it had been generally approved by him. Had they been disapproved by his Excellency, it might still have been argued with force, that, as the suggestions of the British Government, with whose advice he had pledged himself to conform, he was bound by the treaty to adopt them; and his refusal, even in that case, to do so, might have been considered as a violation of the treaty. But after solemnly declaring his acquiescence in the principal measures that were proposed to him, his refusal to carry them into effect might have justly involved him in consequences which I felt the greatest reluctance to describe to him, and which I prayed to God to avert. Those consequences were feelingly referred to in your Lordship's letter to his Excellency, as actually now hanging over him, and suspended alone by the moderation, the extraordinary patience and forbearance of the Honourable Company's Government, which his Excellency had tried to the utmost, and which could scarcely be expected to bear with his procrastination or evasion any longer.

5. But if the Government were even still disposed to forbear, I intreated his Excellency to consider that the actual state of his country, as recently described by himself, called loudly for immediate reform, and must shortly, in my opinion, be such as to require a more general and comprehensive interference on our part, than his Excellency perhaps was aware of, for the purpose of supporting his authority and preserving the tranquillity of his dominions.

6. His Excellency had repeatedly told me, that a fourth part of his revenue for the present year was outstanding, and that few of the principal landholders paid any respect to his Aumils; so that a general insurrection of the landholders might at no distant period be feared, and the aid of the British troops, to be necessarily accompanied by Ameens, in the terms of my declaration to his Excellency by your Lordship's especial command, was the only alternative that could remain for the support of his Excellency's authority, save his cordial concurrence with me in the execution of the measures of reform. To the effects of an interference like that described between his Excellency's officers and his subjects, indispensable on the part of our Government for the purpose of essential justice, and perfectly warranted by the spirit of the Honourable Company's guarantee,

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guarantee, I intreated his Excellency to attend, while forming his ultimate decision on the first and most important of the questions that were argued in your Lordship's letter; and with this exhortation I concluded my remarks on the subject of reform.

7. With a reference to the second of those questions, the claim of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan for redress of the grievances sustained by him during a period of several years, I recalled to his Excellency's mind the words of his letter to your Lordship, conveying an absolute promise to abide by your Lordship's decision on the merits of the question at issue. That decision his Excellency would find most fully and explicitly detailed in your Lordship's letter before him, and I could scarcely entertain a doubt of the speedy adjustment of the claim in the terms of your Lordship's decision.

8. The question of a provision for Hoosein Alee Khan, as far as his Excellency's promise was concerned, was exactly similar to the foregoing. His Excellency had promised to your Lordship to be guided by your decision on the case; and that decision having now been explained to him, his compliance with it should follow of course.

9. The only remaining point, I observed, which was treated in your Lordship's letter as a matter of just and immediate demand, was the restoration to her Highness the younger Begum of the possessions of her ancestors in Delhi, in pursuance of a promise by his Excellency, contained in two of his letters to her Highness, copies of which she had produced. On this subject I had nothing to add to your Lordship's most kind and considerate assurance, that his Excellency's early compliance would be received as a mark of his friendship and attention to the advice of the British Government.

10. The Vizier had listened to me in silence during the whole of the discourse which is here recorded. He now observed to me, that he had been long in expectation of receiving this letter from your Lordship, and was heartily glad that it had arrived, because it would necessarily lead to an adjustment, in some way or other, of questions that had been too long unsettled, more particularly the question of reform; that his affairs were in great and general disorder, owing to the protracted discussion of this question, and that he could not be at rest till it was settled. He would carry the letter with him directly to Bebeepore, would peruse it with care and attention, and no time should be lost in preparing and transmitting an answer, expressive of his final determination on every point that it embraced.

11. I replied, that the answer to be satisfactory must, in my judgment, be short, and might very easily be prepared; that the argument on every part of the subject was considered by your Lordship to be exhausted, and his Excellency's concession or rejection of the just demands of the Government, which your Lordship was determined to persist in, was all that was expected or required; that the former alternative was the wisest and most beneficial to the true interests of his Excellency, as well as the most conducive to the preservation of his authority and consequence, which were the objects nearest his heart, seemed, to my judgment, obvious and indisputable; and, judging on the question as I did, I performed a duty of friendship to his Excellency in recommending it most earnestly to his choice. At a future period, I added, if his Excellency should unhappily find the independence of his authority to be controlled, his consequence among his subjects to be lessened, by any circumstance or course of events, he would probably then recollect, and reflect with serious concern on, the friendly admonitions which I had so often conveyed to him, with the view of averting those evils, and particularly my exhortations of that day.

12. From the 4th till the 20th instant the Vizier continued at Beebeepore, intent, as he daily informed me, on the consideration of your Lordship's letter, and occupied in preparing his reply to it.

13. Being extremely desirous to bring about a satisfactory adjustment of the several subordinate questions which are agitated in your Lordship's letter to the Vizier before commencing on the work of reform, or at all events to separate the future discussion of this subject from that of every subordinate question,

question, I addressed a short letter to his Excellency on the 8th instant in nearly the following terms. " I transmit, for your Excellency's consideration, an extract from your friendly letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, under date the 17th of Shabaun 1227 (26th August 1812), expressive of your absolute promise to be guided by his Lordship's decision on the cases of Hoosein Alee Khan and Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan; and as your Excellency has now been apprized, in a manner the most authentic and solemn, of his Lordship in Council's decision on both of the cases at issue, I submit my confident hope, that your Excellency's promise will be fulfilled without any further delay, and that the sincerity of your professions of friendship and consideration for the British Government will thus be established beyond a doubt, to the real satisfaction of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and more particularly to mine."

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14. On the 9th instant I addressed another letter to his Excellency, of which the following is a verbal translation: " Your Excellency's justice and benevolence have ultimately enabled me to effect a final and satisfactory adjustment of all the most important concerns of her Highness the younger Begum, and with the exception of her Highness's claim for the possessions of her ancestors at Delhi, which your Excellency promised to restore to her on two separate occasions, in your letters of which copies are enclosed, I am not aware of any unsettled demand against your Excellency's Government by her Highness. On the subject of this latter demand, your Excellency has been recently apprized of the sentiments and wishes of the British Government in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter of the 2d of July last; and his Lordship has laid his injunctions on me to procure the restoration of those possessions to her Highness the Begum, who has herself also recently applied to me on the subject, in a letter of which a copy is enclosed. In obedience to his Lordship's command, and in compliance with the desire of the Begum, I solicit the favour of an order on your Excellency's agent at Delhi for the surrender of her Highness's possessions to the person appointed to take charge of them, who is now in attendance on me. An adjustment of the revenues of those possessions, and the payment of the balance due to her Highness, can be easily settled hereafter."

15. To the first of the two letters above inserted I received an immediate answer: the second has not been honoured with a reply. His Excellency's answer to my letter of the 8th instant is expressed in the following terms. " The truth is, that the discussion regarding the cases of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan and Hoosein Alee Khan has proceeded to a most disagreeable length, and cannot be protracted any longer without real uneasiness to me. The affairs of this Government, indeed, must be subject to the greatest embarrassment, until all the questions that are agitated in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter be settled, and consequently I can never be unmindful for a moment of the necessity of bringing them to an adjustment. I am sedulously occupied in perusing all the papers that have reference to those points; but as the cases of the Moonshee and the Khan form parts of the Governor-General's letter, until the terms of my answer to that letter be adjusted I cannot take up any of those cases."

16. The evasive nature and object of his Excellency's letter, above quoted, must be evident to your Lordship in Council from a mere perusal of its terms: but they were rendered still more manifest to me by the reports of his Excellency's proceedings at Bebeepore, and of the counsels by which he is known to be influenced in his opposition to the views of our Government. I replied to his Excellency's letter by a message to the following effect, delivered in writing to my Moonshee, for the purpose of being read by his Excellency: " The disposition evinced to my judgment by the contents of your Excellency's letter of yesterday has filled me with grief and concern. I can scarcely suppose it to be possible that your Excellency should form a wish to depart from a positive promise on any point, conveyed either verbally or in writing, to me or to any one else; but an unconditional promise contained in a letter from your

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" Excellency to the Right Honourable the Governor-General is an obligation of
" so solemn a nature, that my mind rejects the idea of a departure from it in any
" respect. Yet if your Excellency were disposed to fulfil your assurance in
" behalf of the Moonshee, I can scarcely account for a delay in your issuing
" the several orders which the Governor-General has proposed to you. The
" words of your Excellency's letter to his Lordship are these: 'Whatever your
" Lordship desires, inform me of it, and I shall act accordingly.' His Lord-
" ship's reply is as follows: 'I deem it incumbent on your Excellency's justice
" to issue your positive orders to the Aumil of Sandee for the release and res-
" toration to the Moonshee of his hereditary possessions in that district,' &c.
" Under these circumstances, let me respectfully inquire of your Excellency
" what is meant by the expression in your letter to me, 'that you cannot take
" up the case of the Moonshee;' a case that is absolutely decided by your Ex-
" cellency's unconditional promise, and that requires but a few lines of an order
" to your Excellency's Aumil of Sandee, 'till the terms of your answer be
" settled:' and if such be the disposition of your mind with a reference to a
" case that is decided, what hope can your well-wisher indulge of a speedy and
" satisfactory adjustment of the other questions at issue, so as to strengthen, or
" even to preserve, the relations of friendship and harmony subsisting between
" the two States. I beseech your Excellency most earnestly to issue your
" orders without delay in the terms of his Lordship's requisition for the redress
" of the grievances of the Moonshee, and the restoration of his just rights. I
" further exhort your Excellency, with similar earnestness and anxiety, to com-
" ply with his Lordship's request of a provision for Hoosein Alee Khan, and to
" issue your orders immediately for the restoration to her Highness the Begum
" of the possessions of her ancestors at Dehli, so that nothing may remain for
" discussion between your Excellency and me, save the important question of
" reform, and the execution, in concurrence with each other, of the salutary
" arrangements connected with it; and that your Excellency's friendly reply to
" the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, instead of the labour of
" many more days, may be a short and satisfactory declaration of your acqui-
" escence in all his demands:—your fulfilment of his just expectations. I
" intreat your Excellency to be assured of the truth and sincerity of the friend-
" ship with which I submitted my advice to your Excellency on each and all
" of those points at our conference on Saturday last, and that whoever may
" advise you to act otherwise than in compliance with my friendly admonition,
" in the name of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, is an enemy to
" your person and Government, however specious his counsels may appear. I
" concur most cordially in the justness of your Excellency's remark, that the
" whole of the concerns of your Government must be subject to embarrassment
" and disorder, until the questions that have been agitated, and are at issue, be
" brought to a satisfactory conclusion. But the real cause of this disorder is
" manifestly no other than that which the Right Honourable the Governor-Gen-
" eral has described to your Excellency in the concluding paragraph of his letter,
" namely, your Excellency's reluctance to conform to the counsels of the Bri-
" tish Government; and it is at all times in your Excellency's power, by a
" prompt and sincere compliance with the just demands and salutary advice of
" that Government, to rectify every disorder, to secure the prosperity of your
" dominions, and the ease and happiness of your mind."

17. The Vizier's reply to my message, which my Moonshee saw him read with attention, was conceived in the following terms: "That he was sorry to observe my suspicion of his wish to evade or resist the demands of the British Government, as conveyed by your Lordship's letter to him; that any longer evasion or delay was obviously out of the question; the discussion of all the points in dispute had already lasted for years, and an end must be put to it immediately; that resistance to your Lordship's demands was obviously out of his power, and no resource but acquiescence remained; that he was occupied from morning till night in preparing his reply to the letter, and that I should receive it in a very few days. What then was the occasion for hurry on any particular subject, when the whole must be settled so speedily? My importunities might perplex and disturb him, but could answer no beneficial end."

18. The

18. The purport of the message above stated, had a natural tendency to persuade me that his Excellency the Vizier was at length happily convinced of the necessity of his acquiescence in the just demands of our Government, with a reference to the question of reform and to all the other questions that are agitated in your Lordship's letter to his address; and therefore I deemed it to be my duty to refrain from any further importunity with his Excellency, till the result of his deliberation should be known.

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19. My subsequent communications with the Vizier were accordingly limited to the object of accelerating the redress of the grievances of some sepoys and other dependants of our Government, and particularly of Mal Tewaree Naick, whose case is already known to your Lordship in Council, and whose personal attendance in Lucknow, although summoned again from Benares at the express desire of the Vizier, for the purpose of reclaiming his property, by making oath to its value and extent, has hitherto proved totally ineffectual to the redress of his manifest wrongs. The extraordinary, though characteristic pretext, on which his Excellency the Vizier has attempted to evade the fulfilment of his promise in behalf of this unfortunate Naick, is worthy of particular animadversion. The Aumil, or Deputy Aumil, by whom Mal Tewaree was imprisoned and plundered, has been dismissed from the Vizier's employment, and his Excellency is now pleased to argue that the power of doing justice to Mal Tewaree is entirely out of his hands; "for," says his Excellency, "I did not plunder Mal Tewaree, and why should I be required to compensate his loss? Let him seek his redress from Imrut Loll (the displaced Aumil), in whom I or my Government have no farther concern." It can scarcely be necessary to contrast, for your Lordship in Council's information, the words of his Excellency's promise with the argument that has thus been adduced. "When he (Mal Tewaree) attends and makes oath to his losses, his property, or the value of it, *shall be restored.*" My further proceedings, with a view to the redress of the wrongs of Mal Tewaree, and the result of those proceedings, if necessary, shall be reported to your Lordship in Council through the medium of the Secretary to Government.

20. On the evening of Saturday, the 25th instant, I received the Vizier's reply to your Lordship's letter, and had the mortification of finding it to be written in the same perverse and unhappy disposition of mind which his Excellency has uniformly evinced for so long a period of time, and which precluded any reasonable expectation of his cordial concurrence with me in the execution of the reforms of his Government proposed by your Lordship in Council, or his willing concession of any other of the remaining points in dispute. A reluctant and compulsive assent to the system recommended by your Lordship, or an assurance that it shall be carried into effect, and a promise, as evasive as the former, of the restoration of the rights of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, are the only points in the letter which seem worthy of notice for the present. It is my intention hereafter, if it be necessary, or if his Excellency shall not see cause to recall the letter entirely, and substitute a more proper one in its stead, to submit a translation of it to your Lordship, with remarks on its general spirit and tenor, and on the extraordinary assertions which it contains.

21. Immediately on my perusal of the letter, I sent a message to his Excellency the Vizier, expressive of my serious concern at the disposition and temper of mind in which his Excellency appeared to have addressed the head of the British Government in India, and more particularly at the manifest inconsistency of the view which his Excellency had now taken of the several questions at issue, with the purport of his messages on those subjects delivered to me so recently by my Moonshee. I added my intention to wait on him on the morning of the following Monday, for the purpose of offering some remarks on the general tenor of his letter and the consequences likely to be produced by it; after which, if his Excellency wished it, the letter should be forwarded to the Presidency without any further delay.

22. The occurrence of the Eed upon Monday precluded an interview with his Excellency till the morning of the 28th instant, when he did me the honour
of

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of breakfasting with me. We had a conference of several hours; and the result was, his Excellency's expression of a desire to recal his letter, with a seeming sincere resolution to alter its general spirit, and to express at least in a more cordial manner his acquiescence in the system of reform, as well as to do immediate justice with a reference to the claims of Alee Nuckee Khan.

23. I have acquiesced in his Excellency's desire to a certain extent, by promising to suspend the despatch of the letter to your Lordship until the evening of the 30th instant, when I have declared my resolution to forward it, with such remarks as the occasion requires, unless I receive in the mean time some satisfactory demonstration on his part of a happy change in his sentiments and counsels, with regard to all the matters in dispute.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
29th September 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord:

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 29th ultimo, I have now the peculiar satisfaction of announcing to your Lordship in Council a complete, and apparently, a sincere alteration in the counsels and sentiments of the Vizier, with regard to every matter in dispute between the British Government and his Excellency.

2. The result, although not the detail, of my conference with his Excellency on Tuesday last, is already before your Lordship in Council. The nature of the arguments which I used to convince his Excellency of the danger to which he was exposing himself unnecessarily, as well as unwisely, by his continued and perverse opposition to the just demands of our Government and to your Lordship's most salutary advice, needs not to be described on this occasion.

3. His Excellency at parting with me desired that my Moonshee, Alee Nuckee Khan, should attend him on Wednesday, for the purpose of submitting his sunnuds and obtaining the restoration of his rights. When the Moonshee waited on the Vizier, his Excellency, instead of examining his sunnuds, engaged him in a conversation on the subject of the contents of his letter to your Lordship, which he concluded that the Moonshee had seen. He observed, that I was highly dissatisfied with the purport of that letter, and that he wished, if it were possible, to alter it in the manner which I had proposed. That there were four points agitated in the letter: the reform, which his Excellency had agreed to by compulsion; the Moonshee's own claim, which he had now determined to concede as a mark of his friendship for me; the demand of a provision for Hoosein Alee Khan, which, to a small or trifling extent, he was also disposed to acquiesce in; and the question of the possessions in Dehli, unjustly claimed by the Begum, whose brother, Emam-ood-Deen Khan, and his children, had a preferable right to those possessions. The Moonshee very properly answered, that he was not entrusted nor authorized by me to make any representation to his Excellency, save with a reference to his own claims; but, as an old servant of mine, that he would venture to receive and communicate any friendly proposal from his Excellency, with a certainty of its meeting with attention.

4. From the Moonshee's report of his further conversation with the Vizier, I gathered that his Excellency's principal objection in reality, though a number of others were stated, to the adoption of the system of reform, was not an objection to its principle, nor even to the general outline of the plan, as described in your Lordship's letter of the 28th December 1810, but was founded on an article of the agreement between his Excellency and me, under date the 4th of April 1811, by which he considered himself bound to submit to my inspection the whole of the revenue accounts of his dominions, and to obtain

obtain my approbation of every scheme of assessment of a district before the settlement should be carried into effect; or, in other words, agreeably to his Excellency's construction, to place the power of assessment of his revenue in the hands of the British Government or its representative; and that if this objection could be removed, there was reasonable ground to expect the Vizier's cordial concurrence in the measures of reform, and his concession, partial or total, of every other matter in dispute.

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5. That nothing could be more remote from your Lordship in Council's intention than the ground of his Excellency's alarm which is stated in the foregoing paragraph, was sufficiently obvious to me, and I determined to strain every nerve, to exert every faculty of reasoning, to banish this fear from his mind, and to convince him that a just and moderate assessment of his dominions for a fixed period of time, with security to the landholders and cultivators for a strict adherence to the terms of their engagements with the Government and with each other, was all that your Lordship had in view, and that no unwarranted nor unnecessary, and far less an indelicate, interference in the minute details of his Excellency's administration of his revenue was ever contemplated by me. That if no coercion were used at the time of the settlement with the landholders, the terms of it would necessarily be just and moderate, and that unless the British troops were required to coerce the Zemindars, I should never consider it to be my duty to inquire at what rate the estate of any landholder was assessed, nor even to ask information from his Excellency regarding the revenue of any portion of his dominions. That in cases where the aid of our troops might be required, his Excellency would, of course, in the first instance, endeavour to satisfy himself, and would deem it reasonable to satisfy me by the production of authenticated documents, that the demand to be enforced was a just one; and that beyond this fair and legitimate object, the British Government had no desire whatever to interfere between his Excellency or his Amils and the landholders.

6. A number of messages having reference to this particular question had passed between his Excellency and me, through the medium of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, during Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; and this morning I waited on his Excellency by appointment, and had a conference with him of several hours. The details of this conference shall be reported for your Lordship in Council's information at a period of greater leisure.

In the mean time I congratulate your Lordship, with the most cordial and unfeigned satisfaction, on what I consider to be the happy adjustment of every important question depending between your Lordship's Government and the Vizier.

His Excellency's cordial concurrence in the general outline of reform recommended by your Lordship's letter of the 28th December 1810, and in all the essential details of it, was announced to me in a manner the most solemn; and his Excellency has promised, with every degree of apparent sincerity, to record that concurrence under his seal, in a letter to your Lordship's address, and in terms suggested by me, as soon as a letter can be prepared. Justice has been rendered to Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, by an order, under the seal of the Vizier, addressed to his Amil of Sandee, in the terms, or nearly the terms of your Lordship's letter to his Excellency. A provision of two thousand rupees per month, which I consider as liberal and ample, has been promised by his Excellency the Vizier to Hoosein Alee Khan and the other indigent members of the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan. The value of the property claimed by Mal Tewaree, Naick of the Honourable Company's service, is in train of liquidation by the displaced Amil, who plundered him; and her Highness the younger Begum's claim for the restoration of her father's possessions in Dehli has been admitted, to the extent which the Mohummudan law authorizes with a reference to her brother's rights.

7. On taking leave of his Excellency this morning he embraced me in the most cordial manner at the door of his palace, where all his native courtiers and a number of English gentlemen were assembled, for the purpose, as he stated

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to me in private, of demonstrating to his subjects at large the happy result of our conference, and manifesting to all around him that the uneasiness and anxiety of his mind, which had long been apparent to his courtiers, were now entirely removed.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
2d October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, dated respectively the 29th September and 2d instant, the latter communicating the gratifying intelligence of the assent of his Excellency the Vizier to the plan submitted to him by the British Government for the reform of his administration, and his Excellency's compliance with the other requisitions contained in the late Governor-General's letter to his address of the 2d of July last.

2. The contents of that despatch have afforded the Governor-General in Council a very high degree of satisfaction, and encouraged his Lordship in Council to hope that the strenuous and persevering exertions of the Government to introduce into the territory of Oude, with the concurrence of the Vizier, a system of administration calculated no less to secure his Excellency's real interests than to promote the ease, happiness, and prosperity of his subjects, may ultimately be attended with their merited success.

3. The Governor-General in Council anxiously expects the receipt of his Excellency's letter in reply to that above referred to, and his Lordship in Council trusts that the delay which has occurred in its transmission is not occasioned by any hesitation on the part of his Excellency to confirm, in a direct address to the Governor-General, those assurances which he has so solemnly conveyed to you. Until the Vizier's letter and your further communications shall be received, it would be premature to enter into any detailed remarks on the subject of your despatches. His Lordship in Council, however, cannot allow to pass this occasion of signifying to you his high approbation of the manner in which you have conducted to its present apparently favourable stage, a negotiation, in the course of which you have received the repeated acknowledgments, approbation, and applause of this Government.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
15th October 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

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EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 22d October 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Right Honourable Gilbert Lord Minto, Governor-General in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord :

1. I have this day received from his Excellency the Vizier, and transmitted to the Persian Department, the promised letter from his Excellency to your Lordship's address, which is referred to in my despatch of the 2d instant, expressive of the Vizier's cordial consent to the salutary reforms of his Government recommended by your Lordship in Council, and his concession, partial or total, of all the other demands which are stated in your Lordship's letter to his Excellency of the 2d of July last.

2. It was my wish and suggestion to the Vizier that his Excellency should entirely refrain from noticing, in his letter to your Lordship, any one of the various points which were formerly matters of dispute between the two Governments, but had been settled to your Lordship's satisfaction, and that his
Excellency

Excellency should carefully avoid any retrospective observation or expression that could tend to qualify the harmony which seems now to be happily re-established between the British Government and himself.

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3. A handsome or unqualified concession, however, is unfortunately quite inconsistent with the disposition of his Excellency the Vizier; and my knowledge of his Excellency's character has tended to excite agreeable surprize in my mind, rather than any degree of disappointment, at the terms in which his letter is conceived.

4. Any further remarks which may occur to me as necessary to be submitted to Government, on the general tenor of the letter, or particular observations contained in it, shall form the subject of a future despatch. For the present, and in the contemplation of your Lordship's early return to England, I content myself with repeating my sincere and respectful congratulations on the success of the exertions of your Lordship's Government to persuade his Excellency the Vizier, of the necessity and advantage of a reform in the administration of the revenue of his dominions.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
12th October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL SECRET PERSIAN CORRESPONDENCE,
1813.

Bengal
Secret Persian
Correspondence,
1813.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 22d October 1813.)

I have had the honour to receive your Lordship's obliging letter of the 2d of July, urging me to introduce the proposed system of reform into my reserved dominions.

Your Lordship has observed, that the delay which has occurred in the preparation of your answer to my letter, has arisen partly from the occupation of your time by other matters of public exigency, and partly by a hope that I should have been convinced of the justice of the arguments employed by Major Baillie, for the purpose of effecting an adjustment of all depending questions, and that a fair prospect would consequently be afforded of a removal of the evils of the present system of my Government, by the introduction of the plan of administration recommended to my adoption; but that your Lordship has now found yourself compelled to address me in terms of remonstrance and expostulation, which it can neither be agreeable to your Lordship to use, nor to me to hear.

The case is this:—I have no kind sympathizing friend but your Lordship, and in fact I consider my individual happiness and welfare to depend on your Lordship's kindness, and I look for the prosperity, the success, and the good of my Government, exclusively to the aid, assistance, and protection of the British Government. When, therefore, I entertained objections to the proposed system of reform, I stated them to Major Baillie, who in the course of his conferences said that he would endeavour, as far as he was able, to remove those objections; and that if any should still remain, your Lordship would remove them, and satisfy my mind in the fullest manner. I was therefore under the necessity of addressing myself to your Lordship on the subject; and the establishment of the proposed system was suspended until an answer should be received to my letter, and my doubts be removed. Now, however, your Lordship has complained of my not having carried the proposed system into effect. But let your Lordship have the goodness to consider, that if my mind had been relieved from those doubts and objections, there would have been no necessity for communicating them to your Lordship.

With regard to your Lordship's assurance, that it is impossible that the British Government should ever propose to me the adoption of a measure having the

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—
Letter
from the Vizier.

the most remote tendency to diminish my personal consequence, or to impair the just authority of my Government, your Lordship's personal kindness and the friendship subsisting between the two Governments afford a well-grounded hope, that such will always be the conduct of the British Government towards me, since fidelity to its engagements is the peculiar characteristic of that Government; while I, on my part, am bound by treaty (as indeed it is also a pleasure to me) to conform to its advice.

Your Lordship has declared, that no lapse of time nor change of circumstances will induce the British Government to relinquish a measure, which it considers to be essential to the welfare and happiness of my subjects, to the promotion of my own substantial ease, comfort, and advantage, and to the reputation and interests of both Governments, and which it is bound by the most solemn obligations to persevere in seeing carried into effect, according to the provisions of the treaty.

I never can propose, or even desire, that the British Government should refrain from advising and adopting any measure which may be according to treaty; on the contrary, I consider the advice of the British Government to be conducive to the support and prosperity of my interests. Your Lordship's writing to me, therefore, in this manner, is an additional source of comfort to my mind.

With regard to your Lordship's remark, that by refusing to carry the proposed system of administration into effect, I shall violate an express stipulation of the treaty of 1801: the fact is, that nothing can be further from my thoughts than the violating an article of the treaty. If I were to persevere (in refusing) to carry into effect a system of administration for my country which shall be according to treaty, then I should assuredly be guilty of a violation of an express article of the treaty: but if I am disposed to introduce into my reserved dominions, through the medium of my own officers, and with the advice and assistance of the British Government, a system of administration conducive to the prosperity of my subjects, and calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants, I am satisfied that the British Government will not entertain this opinion with respect to me.

Heaven forbid that I should be disposed to act contrary to treaty! I am perfectly ready to establish a system of administration by my own authority, and through the medium of my own public officers, with the advice of the British Government. My desire was, that the proposed system, after the removal of my objections and the concession of such points as appeared to affect my consequence and dignity, should be carried into effect. Now that your Lordship's kindness, and the recent conferences with Major Baillie, and the assurances afforded by that officer on his own part, combined with a promise of obtaining similar assurances from your Lordship with respect to the concession of certain trifling points in the proposed system, especially the furnishing the Resident at my Court with the papers relating to the assessment, &c. sent in by the Ameens, which would be in the highest degree degrading; also your Lordship's express assurance that the adoption of the plan of reform will secure my ease and comfort, and generally the prosperity of all my concerns, and that the aid of the British troops will be afforded me, and that the system is in every respect for my advantage, and your promise that Major Baillie will employ his exertions to uphold and support my consequence, power, and authority, have relieved my mind and inspired me with confidence; I agree to the introduction of the system proposed in your Lordship's letter of the 28th of December 1810.

As, indeed, my comfort and happiness, and the prosperity and welfare of my Government, entirely depend on the assistance and protection of the British Government, I shall cheerfully exert myself to carry into effect the proposed system by my own authority, through the medium of my own public officers, that is to say, the assessment of the lands throughout the country shall be regulated by the real assets of the several districts, to be ascertained by actual investigation, and be fixed for a certain sum, and that assessment shall be increased only in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the several districts. The revenue to be paid by the Zemindars, renters and Ryots, also, shall be fixed on a full

full investigation by Ameens of the capacity of the lands, by written engagements, which shall be guaranteed by the State, that no more than what is specified in those engagements may, on any account, be exacted from the parties; and the Zemindars and others shall have the privilege of appealing to the authority of the Government against any violation on the part of the Amils, that the latter may be restrained from oppression.

All these arrangements shall be adopted in establishing the proposed system of reform. When any Zemindar shall be refractory about paying his rent, copies of his cabooleat and pottah shall, if necessary, be sent to the Resident, that he may see them, and punish such refractory individuals.

With regard to Moonshce Aleo Nuckee Khan, after exposing the real state of the case to your Lordship, and imparting to you my own sentiments on it, I, from motives of respect to your Lordship, added, that I was ready to do whatever might be your Lordship's wish; and I was expecting that your Lordship would write to desire, that after inspecting and examining his sunnuds, I would restore him to his just rights. Your Lordship having been pleased again to desire me to comply with the points relating to his case, with the view of promoting your Lordship's satisfaction, I have given orders for the execution of them.

With respect to what your Lordship has written on the subject of restoring the stipend enjoyed by the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan to his younger son Hoosein Alee Khan, the case is this:—I declared to your Lordship, in the fullest and most unqualified manner, my ignorance of the grant, the payment, or the discontinuance, of such a stipend. At the same time, I distinctly intimated to your Lordship, that if, besides the stipend, the right to which could not in any manner be proved, there was any thing else which your Lordship desired, I was ready to do it to the extent of my ability.

I never knew, nor do I know, any thing of the grant of the stipend in question; nor was it discontinued in my time. If the stipend had actually been granted, some trace of it must certainly have appeared among the records of my Government. Under these circumstances, it is by no means incumbent upon me to grant the stipend; but as I am sincerely disposed to promote your Lordship's satisfaction to the utmost of my power, I beg leave to inform your Lordship, that at the suggestion of Major Baillie, I have assigned the sum of 2,000 rupees a month for the maintenance and support of all the surviving members of the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan.

With respect to what your Lordship has written with the pen of kindness on the subject of her Highness the Bhabee Begum (Shums-oon-Nissa), and of my issuing an order for the release of her lands, houses, and gardens at Delhi, and paying the amount of the collections which I have received from them, I have to observe, that I have never been deficient in paying due respect to her Highness; but she, on her part, has not demeaned herself towards me in a manner suitable to her relationship to me, or to my dignity as sovereign. On this subject I mentioned several circumstances in my letter written at the close of the month of Shabaun (8th of September 1812); but not having been gratified by an answer to it, I have, agreeably to Major Baillie's desire, commuted the khassa (victuals) for a payment in money; and, in commutation of the jagier, I have given more than the jumma; so that I suffer a considerable loss: but out of compliment to Major Baillie, I have not made any dispute about it. If your Lordship, however, will consider justly, you will be satisfied that I am not required by the tenor of my engagements to assign any monthly or annual allowance to persons who leave my dominions. Two villages which are stated in the schedule of the muhls of the jagier to be rent-free (*minhāee*), and which do not belong to the jagier, remain as a separate tenure, and I have not even now taken possession of them. At the time that her Highness determined to retire to Elahabad, I endeavoured, through Major Baillie, to divert her from her purpose, by the language of conciliation and kindness, and by representation, to all which she paid no attention whatever: and when she retired from her jagier to Selimpore, and Major Baillie prepared to proceed to that place, for the purpose of prevailing upon her Highness to return, I gave a letter to Major Baillie to his own address, dated the 13th of Zeekaud,

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Letter
from the Vizier.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

1227 Hijjuree (19th November 1812), and asked him what your Lordship would say now ; when he said, that the blame rested not with me, but with her Highness. I have no doubt that your Lordship has received a copy of that letter, from which, and the representations of Major Baillie, your Lordship will be apprized of the conciliatory line of conduct which I have pursued towards her Highness. Major Baillie being your Lordship's representative, his word is, in fact, the same as your Lordship's. Be pleased, then, to reflect well, whether, when the representations of that officer fail to produce any effect, and are disregarded by her Highness, any conciliation or kindness on my part could succeed in making an impression on her mind. Be pleased to consider, that if, notwithstanding all this consideration towards her Highness on my part, she will not be reconciled, and will remain at variance with me, I am not in fault ; I cannot help it. None of the ladies of this family ever went elsewhere : an instance of it, therefore, occurring in my own time, is a source of deep concern to my mind. As to the villages, lands, and gardens, if any one had a claim to them, it was her Highness's brother, the late Eman-ood-Deen Khan, who had the claim, and after him her nephew, Hoosein-ood-Deen Khan. Besides, these lands have remained under the same circumstances as they were before my time. I did not resume them ; and formerly, when I made a promise to her Highness to restore them, Emam-ood-Deen Khan was alive. Emam-ood-Deen Khan, Hoosein-ood-Deen Khan, and her Highness were all here. Now that her Highness has chosen to leave this place, she solely cannot assert a claim to the proprietary right of those lands.

With regard to what your Lordship has written respecting her Highness the Bhow Begum, the case is this :—The points regarding her Highness have been settled according to the desire of Major Baillie ; but her Highness has obtained possession of several places which belong to me, and a large sum of money is due to me from her. Notwithstanding the promise of the British Government, the adjustment of this, and all other points relating to me, is suspended. The fugitives from my territories, who seek an asylum in her Highness's jagier, also go unpunished ; and her Highness pays no regard to my representations. With respect to the ladies of the khoord muhl, disgrace and dishonour have occurred. I am degraded and debased by these domestic events. I stated them fully to your Lordship ; but on that subject, also, I have not been gratified by any answer. I do not think it necessary to advert to them specifically, on the present occasion ; but I must observe, that according to the tenor of the engagement concluded between her Highness and me, the interference of her Highness in the concerns of the ladies of the khoord muhl, and in the distribution of their stipends, is subject to this condition—that, whenever requisite, she will render me kindness and assistance.

The fact however is, that at the time of Marquess Wellesley's coming (to Lucknow), I had occasion for lacs of rupees ; but I received no kindness or assistance whatever from her Highness. I did myself the honour to address your Lordship on this subject also. Your Lordship's not favouring me with an answer to that communication, or with a reply to the letter in which I expressed a desire to pay my personal respects to your Lordship, and your not furnishing me with a plan of a system of commerce, notwithstanding the promise of it, and the allowing such a length of time to elapse, certainly indicate a want of kindness.

The departure of Hyder Buksh from this place without coming to any adjustment, the non-receipt of the money due from Khanazad Khan (Mirza Jaun), and the collecting of the duties from the *Subzee Munde* (green market) at Delhi, contrary to usage, although it be in itself a trifling matter, with reference to the friendship subsisting between the two governments, which has identified the interests of both, are a source of regret and concern to my mind.

As my welfare and happiness, and the prosperity of the concerns of my Government, depend on your Lordship's personal kindness, and the aid and assistance of the British Government, if I were not to represent these circumstances.

circumstances to your Lordship, and were not to solicit assistance from the British Government, what should I do?

I formerly expressed an intention of travelling: I therefore wished, after obtaining your Lordship's permission for that purpose, to set out for Calcutta; and, after having the honour of paying my respects to your Lordship, and stating to you all the particulars of my situation, I proposed, if it should seem expedient, with your Lordship's approbation and sanction, agreeably to the anxious wish I have long entertained, to prosecute my travels and return: but having now heard of your Lordship's resignation and intention to return immediately to England, I have relinquished all thoughts of it.

May your Lordship's prosperity and happiness be permanent.

Bengal
Secret Persian
Correspondence,
1813.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 29th October 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copies of letters and other documents which I have recently addressed to the officers commanding the British troops at the posts of Buhramgath and Secroa.

2. His Excellency the Vizier's first intimation to me of an insurrection in his district of Dureeabad was unaccompanied (from motives of diffidence, I presume, on the part of his Excellency) by any application for the aid of the British troops; but as it almost immediately followed his acquiescence in the measures of reform, I was glad to avail myself of an opportunity of manifesting a cordial desire to promote his Excellency's views, and even to anticipate his requisition, by offering the aid of our troops to quell the insurrection in Dureeabad; suggesting to his Excellency, however, the measures which appeared to be proper with the view of superseding any active military operations, and which his Excellency most cheerfully agreed to, desiring me to furnish him with drafts of the requisition to be addressed to myself, and of the mandates to be issued to his landholders.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
14th October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Captain Raper, commanding the Troops at Buhramgath.

Sir:

1. I transmit, for your information and guidance, a translation of a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, and of a mandate addressed by his Excellency to the rebellious landholders and others who are mentioned in his letter to my address. Two original mandates, under his Excellency's seal, are also transmitted to you, for the purpose of being forwarded under your orders.

2. Immediately on your receipt of this despatch, you will be pleased to transmit the enclosed mandates to Hurdut Sing and the other persons described, by a careful and intelligent non-commissioned officer or sepoy of your detachment to be selected for this duty, instructing him to warn the Talookadars and Zemindars of the gross impropriety of their conduct, and of the severe and exemplary punishment which must inevitably be the consequence of their persisting in it; apprizing them, at the same time, that you are authorized and prepared to proceed with the troops under your command, for the purpose of dispersing their followers and protecting the Aumil of the district, unless implicit obedience be paid to the mandate of his Excellency the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Oct. 1813.

3. A copy of this despatch will be forwarded to Major Macmorine, commanding the troops at Secrora, to whom, as well as to me, you will be pleased to report your proceedings; and Major Macmorine will be instructed, if necessary, to reinforce the detachment under your command.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 9th October 1813.)

I transmitted to you yesterday a paper of intelligence received from Dureeabad, containing an account of the rebellious conduct of Hurdut Sing, Talookadar of Sireegaung.

As it appears that this person has collected a considerable force, with which he has surrounded the Aumil and cut off his supplies, there is reason to apprehend the destruction of the Aumil, unless measures for his relief be immediately adopted; and therefore I request that you will write to the commanding-officer of the troops at Secrora to put a stop to the rebellious conduct of the above-mentioned Talookadar, and to prevent Goordut Sing, Daood Khan, and others, from aiding and abetting him.

An Ameen will be deputed from hence, with all practicable expedition, to investigate and settle the dispute between the Aumil and the above-mentioned Talookadar according to justice. Until the arrival of the Ameen, let the Talookadar be prevented from committing any outrage against the Aumil.

Enclosure.

Perwannah addressed to Hurdut Sing, 10th October 1813.

It has been represented to the Presence, that you have collected a force with rebellious intentions, and have actually attacked the Aumil of the Sircar Amrut Loll, whose force you have surrounded for the purpose of cutting off his supplies: It is, therefore, written to you, that an Ameen has been appointed and deputed from the Presence to proceed immediately to Dureeabad, and settle your dispute with the Aumil according to justice. Do you, therefore, refrain from your rebellious practices, dismiss your followers, and await the arrival of the Ameen; or otherwise be prepared to receive the most severe and exemplary punishment from a detachment of British troops, which has been ordered to proceed against you immediately, in case of your disobeying this mandate.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Perwannah addressed to Goordut Sing and others, in similar terms.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Macmorine, commanding the Troops at Secrora.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Captain Raper, commanding the troops at Buhramgath, with copies of the several documents which are referred to in that letter.

2. You will be pleased to issue such further instructions to Captain Raper as circumstances may appear to your judgment to require, and to be guided by the reports

reports of that officer regarding the expediency of reinforcing his detachment, in the case of his proceeding to Dureeabad.

Bengal Political Consultations, 29 Oct. 1813.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing a copy of your proceedings on the occasion of an insurrection in the district of Dureeabad, belonging to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, and to inform you that the tenor of your communication to his Excellency, and of your instructions to the officers commanding the British troops at the posts of Buhramgath and Secrora, is entirely approved by his Excellency in Council.

2. The Governor-General in Council trusts that the judicious measures pursued by you will preclude the necessity of the active employment of the British troops, in reducing the rebellious Zemindars to submission to his Excellency's authority.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
29th October 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Letter from Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 26th November 1813.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 14th ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of the Government, the enclosed copies of letters which have more recently passed between me and the commanding officers of Bulramgath and Secrora, and by which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will be pleased to observe, that the insurrection in the Vizier's district of Dureeabad has been happily quelled, without any active operations on the part of the British troops.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
9th November 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political Consultations, 26 Nov. 1813.

Letter from Resident at Lucknow.

To Major Macmorine, commanding the Troops at Secrora.

Sir :

With reference to the subject of my separate despatch of this date, I recommend your detaching a complete company of sepoys for the treasure, and directing its march by such a route as to approach the scene of the reported disturbances in Dureeabad, with the view of aiding the effect of Captain Raper's message and the Vizier's mandates to the refractory Zemindars.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from Resident at Lucknow.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, enclosing a translation of a letter from his Excellency the Vizier, and two original mandates under his Excellency's seal, accompanied also by a translation, to be forwarded, under my orders, to the rebellious landholders to whom they are addressed.

Letter from Captain Raper.

Bengal Political
Communications,
26 Nov. 1813.

Letter from
Captain Raper.

I have now the honour to inform you, that in obedience to your instructions, I have this day despatched Buctaur Sing, an intelligent sepoy, with the above mandates, and have directed him to apprize the Talookadar and Zemindars concerned, that I have received orders to march immediately with the detachment under my command, for the purpose of dispersing their followers and of supporting the Aumil, unless implicit obedience be paid to the mandates of his Excellency the Vizier.

To prevent any misunderstanding which might arise from a verbal message, I have made the above communication to Hurdut Sing and Goordut Sing, in two separate notes which I have forwarded with his Excellency's mandates, and trust my having done so will meet with your approbation.

I have, &c.

Buhamgath,
12th October 1813.

(Signed) F. V. RAPER,
Captain commanding at Buhamgath.

Letter from
Captain Raper.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that Buctaur Sing, the sepoy whom I sent with his Excellency's mandates, arrived here this morning, and has reported the following particulars of his mission.

That the refractory Zemindars, with a considerable number of followers, collected together in a thick jungle impenetrable for guns, about eight coss to the southward of Dureeabad, and that going to one of their advanced posts for the purpose of delivering his Excellency's mandates, he was refused an interview with the persons to whom they were addressed. He further informs me, that the Aumil has been reinforced by another gun and about one hundred Nujeebs, and is now posted within one coss and a half of the rebels, and is endeavouring to make an amicable adjustment, but with what success I have not been able to learn.

As I understand the Ameen whom his Excellency intended to depute to that quarter has not yet arrived, and the Aumil has extricated himself from the situation of danger in which he was placed, I have been induced to postpone my determination of marching out until I am favoured with your further instructions, as the arrival of our detachment might interfere with the Aumil's plans to adjust the differences by conciliatory measures.

I have, however, warned the detachment to be in readiness to move out at a moment's notice, and shall make no delay in joining the Aumil should your orders be to that effect.

I have, &c.

Buhamgath,
17th October 1813.

(Signed) F. V. RAPER,
Captain commanding at Buhamgath.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Captain F. V. Raper, commanding the Troops at Buhamgath.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two separate despatches dated the 12th and 17th instant.

2. From the tenor of a communication which was made to me this morning by his Excellency the Vizier, I deem the march of your detachment to be unnecessary for the present, and Lieutenant Dunsmure may come on with the treasure escort to Lucknow. His Excellency is, however, desirous that an obligation be required and obtained from the refractory Talookadar and Zemindars to dismiss their followers and await the arrival of the Ameen, in submission to the authority of the Aumil.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th October 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 23d December 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. I am concerned to have occasion to report to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, that since the date of my last despatch to your address, having reference to the disposal of the property of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, which the Vizier had claimed as his own, his Excellency has unhappily reverted to the same pernicious counsels that have so long dictated his opposition to the just views of our Government, and has evinced an inclination to depart not only from the positive promises expressed at his conferences with me, and reported in my recent despatches, but even from the solemn assurances which are conveyed in his letter to Lord Minto of the 12th of October last, with regard to the question of reform and to other points in dispute, that appeared to have been finally settled so as to preclude any future discussion.

2. A detail of the various circumstances and proceedings on the part of the Vizier, which have induced me, though with extraordinary reluctance, to form this opinion of his designs, shall be submitted for the notice of the Government, as soon as translations of my correspondence can be prepared ; but in the mean time I deem it of importance, that his Lordship in Council should be apprized of the Vizier's delay to fulfil, and apparent intention to evade, the promises contained in his letter of the 12th of October last, with the view of enabling his Lordship to take such notice of this conduct in his reply to his Excellency's letter, as the wisdom of the Government may suggest.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
13th December 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
23 Dec. 1813.

Letter
from Resident
at Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 31st December 1813.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. A number of considerations, which it seems unnecessary to notice in this despatch, induced me to postpone the execution of the orders of Government, conveyed by your letters of the 3d and 10th of September last, having reference to the property of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, and to refrain from making any communication on that subject to his Excellency the Vizier, until Saturday the 30th ultimo, when I was impelled to commence the discussion with his Excellency, by the importunity of the relations and dependants of the deceased, and by a consideration of the great and unnecessary expense of retaining and subsisting the cattle belonging to his estate, to the prejudice of his heirs and legatees.

2. Accordingly, on the morning of the 30th ultimo, at a conference with his Excellency the Vizier, after presenting a letter from the Right Honourable the Governor-General and renewing my instances for the early commencement of the reform, which were cheerfully acceded to by his Excellency, I submitted for his Excellency's consideration translations of the orders of Government conveyed by your despatches above noticed ; and I endeavoured, by every argument of a friendly and conciliatory nature that I could use, to satisfy his Excellency's mind of the justice and expediency of his acquiescence in the disposition which Tuhseen Alee Khan had made of his personal property, and of the manifest injury which his Excellency's reputation must sustain, by any attempt or avowed inclination to oppose the execution of a will committed to the British Government by Tuhseen, on the ground of his long-established connexion with that Government, and ratified by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, who had commanded me to carry it into effect.

3. The

Bengal Political
Consultations,
31 Dec. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
31 Dec. 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. The Vizier seemed considerably agitated by the communication which I made to him on that occasion. He observed to me in general terms, that he had recently committed to my friendship the power of advising and deciding for him on every question of importance that could arise between the two States for the future; that he sincerely and deeply lamented his having ever opposed my advice, or acted without my concurrence; and that to this unhappy circumstance alone, he was now disposed to ascribe every unpleasant occurrence that had happened to him; every distressing sensation that he had known, since the date of my arrival at his Court; that for the future his determination was fixed; I was his only counsellor and friend; nay, he should consider me in the light of a brother, and whatever measures I might adopt or recommend to him, should receive his most ready acquiescence. The case of Tuhseen Alee Khan, he observed, was a case in which the most important interests of his Government seemed to him to be implicated, and the decision on which must form a precedent for essential injury or benefit on a number of future occasions, that could not be absent from his thoughts. Tuhseen Alee Khan had been the confidential servant of his brother's Government and his own for a period of forty years; and the most valuable property, as well as some of the most important offices of the State, had been committed to his custody and management. The uniform practice of this Government, and indeed of all Indian princes, with a reference to such officers as Tuhseen, whether slaves of the Government or not, was to assume or confiscate the whole of their personal property in the first instance, and to provide for their relations and dependants as circumstances might afterwards suggest. That if such public officers under his Excellency's Government as Tuhseen were to be considered as at liberty to dispose of their property by will, without any control by the Government, an opening would necessarily be given to incalculable speculation and fraud by numbers of public servants, who were never before thought entitled to make any such use of their property, and might hereafter be encouraged to combine the public property with their own, in conveyances of this nature to their dependants.

4. I answered his Excellency's remarks by expressing my grateful sense of the friendly confidence which he had now determined to repose in me, and which I assured him I was incapable of abusing. The case of Tuhseen Alee Khan, I observed, had been finally decided by the Government more than a month ago, as his Excellency would see in the papers which were now submitted to him; and all that remained for me to do was, to execute the orders which I had received; the execution of which had been hitherto delayed, with no other view, upon my part, than that of satisfying his Excellency's mind, at a favourable opportunity, of the justice and necessity of the measures which I had been instructed to adopt, and rendering the manner of executing those measures as agreeable as possible to his Excellency, consistently with the more essential purposes of justice to the heirs and dependants of Tuhseen, whose interests could not be sacrificed on any account, and to whom, in reality, as well as to the Government, I was responsible for a due administration of the will. That I saw no reason whatever to apprehend the injurious effects which his Excellency seemed to contemplate from the ratification of Tuhseen Alee Khan's bequests; nor did the case appear to me to form a precedent for that of any other officer or servant of his Excellency's Government or household, since the peculiar circumstances of Tuhseen Alee Khan's connexion with the British Government, which induced its decided interference on this occasion, were such as could never be contemplated again, save in the case of a disputed succession to the musnud of Oude; an event that I was happy to consider as far beyond the verge of probability, if not impossible, for ages yet to come. I was proceeding to reply in detail to the other arguments which his Excellency had adduced, when he interrupted me to say, that as he had not examined the papers, it was unnecessary to prolong the discussion at that time. He would peruse the translations at his leisure, and would convey to me his sentiments on them in writing; after which he should commit the decision to myself, and acquiesce in whatever I might propose to him.

6. On Saturday, the 6th instant, I received from his Excellency a paper without any official form, containing a recapitulation of the arguments which were

were stated at our conference of the 30th ultimo, and deprecating, on some additional grounds, and with extraordinary earnestness and urgency, the ratification or execution of the purposes of the will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, which he declared to be totally illegal and invalid, and its enforcement by the power of our Government to be inconsistent with its own former decision in the case of Almass Alee Khan, and with his Excellency's rights as a sovereign, as well as with Tuhseen Alee Khan's condition as a slave. A copy and translation of the paper are transmitted for the notice of the Government.

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7. His Excellency having announced by the bearer of this paper his intention of breakfasting with me on the ensuing Tuesday, I deferred my reply to his arguments until then; and at a conference on the 9th instant, I resumed the discussion, by observing, that the suspicion which his Excellency entertained of the combination and confusion of the public property of his Government with the personal effects of Tuhseen Alee Khan, was in my opinion totally groundless, and incompatible with the character of the deceased, as well as with the known fact of his Excellency's having gradually withdrawn from Tuhseen the custody of every article of value under his charge, and removed him from the control of every department which he superintended, during the Government of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and for some years after his Excellency's accession. But that, admitting the suspicion in his Excellency's mind to be just, there was nothing so easy as removing it, and satisfying his Excellency's mind, by a personal inspection of the whole of the effects of the deceased, which I was ready to submit to his examination whenever he thought proper to require it. I acknowledged the ancient practice of Indian Governments to resume the jagiers and allowances of public officers at their death, and occasionally to confiscate their property; but my opinion of his Excellency's justice and humanity precluded my belief, I observed, of his approving that practice in others, far more so of his following it himself, in so extraordinary a case as Tuhseen's, and in opposition to the counsels of our Government, who could have no other interest in the affair than a regard for his Excellency's reputation. That if it were the uniform practice of Indian princes to resume and confiscate, it had also been the practice of the best and wisest of those princes to restore the jagiers and allowances, as well as the personal effects of their faithful and meritorious servants, to the heirs and relations of those servants; and that as his Excellency had already resumed the jagier, and had in fact taken possession of the property, through the medium of the Honourable Company's sepoys appointed to guard it by his desire, thus observing the practice of his ancestors, and establishing his paramount right, his subsequent gratuitous and only partial dereliction of that right, supposing it to be just and indefeasible, in compliance with my friendly advice and with the desire of the British Government to give effect to the will of the deceased, could not operate in the smallest degree to the prejudice of his Excellency's claims over other public officers of his Government, nor form a precedent to establish the validity of any future testamentary deeds which his Excellency might wish to set aside. On the other hand, I begged his Excellency to reflect, that the grounds of Mohummudan law, and of a former decision of our Government in the case of Almass Alee Khan, on which his Excellency seemed to rest his opposition to the validity of the will of Tuhseen, were by no means such as to bear him out in the conclusions which he was pleased to infer from them. I asserted and proved to his Excellency, by quotations from the most celebrated legal authorities of both sects of Mohummudans, that a Mussulman eunuch could not by the law be a slave; and were it otherwise, I maintained to his Excellency, that the trust, authority, and power which had been exercised by Almass Alee Khan and by Tuhseen, under his Excellency's father and brother as well as himself, were so totally inconsistent with the real condition of a slave, and with the legal inhibitions or disqualifications of slavery, as to preclude the possibility of considering either of those persons as slaves, or as disqualified from making any use of their personal property during their life-time and disposing of it by will at their death. That, in short, if originally slaves, they must be considered as licensed or enfranchised, and as such to be fully entitled to every lawful use of their property, which the free

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subjects of his Excellency's Government could enjoy. That, with a reference to Almass Alee Khan, the decision of the British Government had supported his Excellency's claim to the property of that Aumil, in opposition or rather in preference to the claim of her Highness the Begum, but by no means in preference to the claims of the heirs or legatees of Almass, because no such persons existed. In reality, the property of Almass had come into his Excellency's possession as the heir of a person intestate, who had no legal successor, and by no means as the proprietor of a slave; for I had repeatedly proved to his Excellency, that his claim upon that ground was entirely illegal and untenable: and on the same principle, and in exact conformity with the decision of the Government on that occasion, I now supported the right of the eunuch, Tuhseen Alee Khan, to dispose of his property by will, and the obligation on the British Government, as well with a reference to the faithful and meritorious services of the deceased, as from a regard for his Excellency's reputation, to urge to him in the strongest terms the justice and necessity of his acquiescing in the provisions of that will. A number of other arguments were adduced and submitted to the Vizier in a friendly and conciliatory manner, but without any seeming effect, at our conference of the 9th instant, and at a subsequent conference on the 16th instant, when I had the honour of waiting on his Excellency. For a detail of the arguments which I used, I refer to a translation of a paper in answer to his Excellency's remarks, which I transmitted to him on the 20th instant, and which forms a number of the present despatch.

8. To this paper I have not yet received a reply, and the actual state of the negotiation, as well as the probable result of it, renders me peculiarly desirous of obtaining the definitive instructions of the Government on the points which I shall submit for consideration in the sequel of this despatch.

9. The Vizier's cordial acquiescence in the purposes of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, and his consent to my official administration to the personal effects of the deceased, are, I apprehend, scarcely to be looked for. His Excellency may, perhaps, be induced to concede those provisions to the servants and dependants of Tuhseen, which are specifically assigned to them in the will, and even to grant an inconsiderable pension to the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth, on the condition of my abandoning to forfeiture the whole of the property of the deceased, which is virtually now in my possession, as being guarded by the Honourable Company's sepoy, and consequently out of his Excellency's power. Those provisions he may further be induced to assign under the guarantee of the British Government, so as to ensure their duration and regular payment while our Government shall be disposed to interfere in behalf of the several assignees, who will in this event, however, require the constant and efficient protection of the Government, and in all probability prove the innocent causes of frequent and vexatious altercation between his Excellency and the Resident at his Court.

10. The alternative, therefore, of the due and immediate execution of the purposes of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, by my official administration to his effects, and by vesting the proceeds of the sale of them in the Honourable Company's funds, is liable, at the least, to those objections which are stated in the foregoing paragraph, as well as to others which might be mentioned; while it can be productive of but one material advantage, that of gratifying the mind of the Vizier, and preserving, perhaps but for a time, the extraordinary harmony which at present subsists, and has so very recently been established between the British Government and his Excellency. This harmony will, however, I fear, be inevitably disturbed for a time, by my administering to the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan in opposition to his Excellency's wishes. His Excellency will, in all probability, evince his displeasure on that occasion by retiring for a time from his palace, withdrawing his attention from business, suspending the progress of the reform, expressing a distaste for the exercise of sovereign authority, and a wish to depart on a pilgrimage, and by all the other subterfuges and shifts to which his Excellency is in the habit of resorting, in order to deter the British Government from prosecuting its just views. Determined

mined opposition or resistance, however, on the part of his Excellency, to the measures which I have been instructed to adopt, is by no means at present in my contemplation, and indeed would be totally unavailing, since the actual possession of the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan must enable me to frustrate any intentions of that nature, if his Excellency could be supposed to entertain them. At the same time, it is worthy of remark that the Vizier has the means of circumscribing in a considerable degree the extent of the benefit to be derived by the legatees to the will of the deceased in consequence of my administration, by prohibiting the people of Lucknow from attending at the sale of the effects, or from purchasing any part of them, and thus reducing the proceeds of the sale, a measure of which his Excellency is by no means incapable, and may very probably resort to, on the principle on which he prohibited the attendance of any of his courtiers at the funeral of Tuhseen Alee Khan, with the absurd view of exhibiting to his subjects and the world his disaffection to the British Government, his only real friends and the sole supporters of his authority.

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11. Under all the circumstances of the case, I consider it to be my duty to solicit the further instructions of the Government before I proceed to execute the will of Tuhseen Alee Khan by administering to his effects and bringing them to a public sale in Lucknow, or to manifest the direct interference of the British Government for the support of the relations and servants of the deceased, by conferring khillats of condolence on the widow and children of Chutra Mull Seth, as prescribed conditionally by your letter under date the 10th of September.

12. The questions submitted for consideration with a reference to all that has been stated are briefly the following: First, whether or not any arrangement with the Vizier on the basis of a dereliction by our Government of the right and duty of administering to the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan, in pursuance of the terms of his will, can be deemed to be just or admissable, with a view to his Excellency's satisfaction? And, secondly, as to the terms of that arrangement, whether the payment of the estimated value of the whole of the deceased's property by the Vizier into the Honourable Company's treasury, for the purpose of being vested in our funds, should form the condition of my surrender of the property, or an obligation on the part of the Vizier for the payment of the monthly provisions assigned by Tuhseen in his will, including a pension to the widow and grand-children of Chutra Mull to the extent of the residue of the estate, under the guarantee of the British Government, should be received from his Excellency, as an equivalent for the immediate payment of the money into the Honourable Company's treasury?

13. I take this opportunity of reporting to you, for his Lordship in Council's information, that his Excellency the Vizier has hitherto shewn no inclination whatever to depart from the assurances which were conveyed by his letter to the Right Honourable the Earl of Minto, with a reference to the subject of reform; and, on the contrary, that the preliminary measures towards a settlement of the land revenue of Oude on fair and moderate terms for a period of three years, are in a train of immediate adoption with my concurrence and advice. His Excellency's confidential minister, Raec Dya-Krishen, who is the principal revenue officer of his Government, and has been long at the head of that department, is in occasional attendance on me for the purpose of receiving my instructions; and the Vizier has repeatedly declared to me that my suggestions on the subject of the settlement, conveyed through the medium of Dya-Krishen, shall be carried into implicit effect. His Excellency, however, has on one or two occasions expressed to me his anxiety to receive a ratification by the Government of the assurance conveyed to him by me, that the exhibition of his revenue papers shall not be demanded by the Resident before the conclusion of the settlement, nor in any instance whatever save that of a requisition from his Excellency for the aid of the British troops; and, with the view of satisfying his Excellency's mind on this particular point, as well as on other grounds of more importance than this, I suggest that a reply to his Excellency's letter of the 17th of October last be prepared and transmitted to his Excellency, at as early a period as may be practicable.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,

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from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 5th of November 1813.)

I have perused the copies which you sent to me of the late Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan's arzees regarding the disposal of his property by will, and the translations of the instructions of Government on that subject, and although I be particularly desirous to avoid all manner of altercation with you, yet necessity compels me to state to you the following circumstances and facts.

It is an established custom in Hindoostan from time immemorial, that the property and effects of every description possessed by slaves should at their death revert to their master, whose property they were while alive. By this rule it is obvious that all the property appertaining to the late Tuhseen Alee Khan undoubtedly and unquestionably belongs to me, and the British Government itself acknowledged my right to this property by its decision in the case of Mohummud Almass Alee Khan, which is exactly similar to the present; or if there be any difference, the latter is more in my favour. Besides, it is generally known that the whole of my jewels, wardrobe, armoury, library, farm-yards, *ruth khana* (bullock carriages), *furiash khana* (camp equipage), and in short all my establishments and property of every description, as well as those of my ancestors and predecessors during four generations, were entrusted to the care of Tuhseen. Any property which he might have considered his own, as accumulated in the service of this Government, was kept with my other property, the lists and inventories of which remained in his constant possession, so that any disposition which he could by will make of a part must be illegal and invalid from this confusion. Moreover, the disposition of property by will, and the assignment of money for post-obituary purposes, as a measure prescribed by divine law, can never be proper by a slave, without obtaining his master's consent and approbation. If Tuhseen Alee Khan wished to dispose of the property which he had saved in my service by will, he should have informed me of his intention, and after obtaining my consent he might then have bestowed his property in any manner he pleased, and there would have been no occasion for secrecy. Besides, the fact of his having been intrusted with the care of my property being incontestible, it behoved him to get a written acquittance in the first instance from me. God knows that he has frequently declared in my presence that every thing he possessed was mine; that he was my slave, and his life and property were at my disposal; and even in the arzees which accompanied his will, or in that instrument itself, he does not attempt to deny that he was my slave, had the superintendence of my household establishments, and was responsible for the charge of my property.

On the occasion of your taking leave of me, preparatory to your departure for Fyzabad, you assured and satisfied me that my just interests and rights with regard to the Begum's property should not be neglected nor infringed; and under what plea can you now suggest the violation of my right to the property of Tuhseen?

You also told me that the disturbances and vexatious discussions which had arisen regarding the khoord muhl proceeded solely from my omitting to consult you and to follow your advice on that occasion; yet I have paid the most implicit attention to all your suggestions regarding Tuhseen, and have not deviated from them in the smallest degree, relying on your assurance that every thing done with your concurrence must necessarily tend to my advantage, and that no bad effects could result to me from following your friendly advice. You even said that you had written to the Government on the subject, and expected a favourable answer. Under these circumstances, it is a natural cause of surprize that an affair which has been conducted uniformly with your advice and concurrence should terminate so contrary to my views.

You requested me on a former occasion to remove whatever property of mine might be in the Khan's house in the *punj mikhla*, or to appoint a person to point out the articles which belonged to me, in order that they might be removed to the Presence; but as the whole of the property was mine, I declined a compliance with your suggestion.

The

The children of Chutra Muhl Seth are Hindoos, and cannot, by any law, inherit the property of Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan, a Mussulman: and independently of this consideration, the deceased left so much property in their hands, that they can never possibly be in want nor need any further provision.

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You told me, that if I gave my cordial consent to the reform and adjusted the claims of Hoosein Alee Khan and Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, there could be no further dispute between us; and now that I have settled all these matters to your satisfaction, the succession to the Khan's property is a new source of contention.

The erection of a monument to his memory, and the other arrangements proposed in his will, are all in direct opposition to the laws of our holy religion, and can never conduce to his happiness in the other world. As the object of all testamentary arrangements should be the testator's happiness in a future state, those arrangements should be conducted in such a manner as may tend to Tuhseen's eternal happiness, by according with the dictates of the law.

The erection of a monument to his memory, and the performance of the customary prayers for the repose of his soul, should, therefore, be left to my discretion; and all the servants of the deceased should hereafter serve me as they served him, and trust to my generosity to provide for them; in which case a provision may be made: while, on the other hand, by the execution of Tuhseen's purposes as prescribed by his will, no possible advantage can arise, save the loss of my property and infraction of my rights, to be publicly proclaimed to the whole world, and thus to encourage my other servants in similar practices. Such a proceeding can never obviously conduce to the Khan's happiness in the next world, but must inevitably tend to his condemnation.

I enclose a statement of the *towfeer* (surplus) arising from the yearly stipend assigned for the support of my brother's, the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah's women, &c.; and you will perceive that the whole of it is no more than sufficient to defray the expenses of funerals and the repairs of the buildings; so that, in fact, the Nazir's wages, and that of the other servants and the guards, is a separate charge on the Government: nevertheless you may dispose of the *towfeer* as you think proper.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Official Note transmitted to His Excellency the Vizier, the 20th November 1813.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour of receiving the paper containing your Excellency's sentiments and wishes with regard to the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, which would seem to have been prepared by your Excellency as an answer to the instructions of Government, translations of which were submitted to you on the 30th ultimo.

The remark with which your Excellency sets out in this paper, namely, that of your general aversion to dispute, and the necessity of your agitating this question, is peculiarly applicable to the whole of my official proceedings with reference to your Excellency's person and Government; and in no instance more so than in the present. I beg your Excellency to reflect, that the positive orders of the Government for my administering to the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan and carrying the purposes of his will into effect, have been actually now in my possession for a period of several months; and that the delay in obeying those orders, for which I am responsible to the Government, could have no other object in the world than the conciliation of your Excellency's mind, by awaiting a favourable opportunity of bringing the circumstances under your consideration, in the hope of convincing your judgment of the wisdom and justice of the measures which I had been instructed to adopt, and of inducing your cheerful participation in those measures, with a view to promote your reputation. The execution of the orders referred to by the

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sale of the effects of the deceased, in pursuance of the terms of his will, was at all times completely in my power. Had I done so on receiving my instructions, the approbation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council was insured to me, as your Excellency has seen; and the reputation of the British Government, as well as my own, for a due attention to the claims of our faithful dependants, might thus have been established for ever, without any participation by your Excellency, and to your prejudice in the eyes of the world; so that the pains which I thought proper to take in translating the instructions of the Government, and in reading and presenting them to your Excellency, with a view to your participation in the humane and benevolent purposes which they prescribe, should in justice have obtained for me the gratifying tribute of your Excellency's approbation of my conduct, and have induced your ready acquiescence in those purposes, without any disagreeable discussion, far less altercation or dispute. Yet as your Excellency has been pleased to overlook those friendly and conciliatory exertions, and to insist on the agitation of the question in a manner which I was so anxious to avoid; it has now become my indispensable duty to answer your Excellency's objections, and to maintain both the justice and expediency of the measures determined on by the Government to your Excellency's thorough conviction, before I proceed to the execution of those measures.

And, first, with regard to your Excellency's remark, that "it is an established custom of Hindoostan to confiscate the property of slaves," &c. I submit with confidence to your Excellency, that the slavery of Tuhseen Alee Khan, as a Mussulman eunuch, cannot be legally established; and I presume to call on your Excellency's law-officers for the grounds of their decision to the contrary, if any of them will venture to pronounce it. That the deceased was constantly in the habit of calling himself your Excellency's slave, and referring to your sovereign right over his life and property, as is stated in another part of your remarks, I am perfectly ready to admit; and so indeed is the fact with regard to every servant and subject of your Excellency's Government; nay, to your children and nearest relations, and to those of every other prince and chieftain of Hindoostan: but that a declaration or confession of this nature should be received as establishing slavery, is an inference not to be admitted. And if your Excellency's anxiety to appropriate the effects of Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan be founded merely on your peculiar deference for the ancient customs of Hindoostan, and the practice of its princes and rulers, I take the liberty of begging you to consider, that the wisest and best of those princes have more frequently remitted the forfeiture in favour of the heirs of their servants, than exacted it for their personal benefit; and, consequently, that as your Excellency has already exerted the privilege and followed the practice of your ancestors, in resuming the jagier of the deceased, your gracious remission of the trifling remainder of the forfeiture, allowing it to be legal and just, and your bestowing it on his relations and dependants, can have no other possible effect than that of promoting your own reputation, and gratifying your best friends, the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council and myself.

With reference to your Excellency's argument deduced from the decision of our Government in the case of Almass Alee Khan, I must beg your Excellency to recollect that the ground of the decision in that case was in no degree connected with the idea of Almass Alee Khan being your Excellency's slave: an assertion which I uniformly resisted, and proved to your Excellency to be groundless, on the authority of the Mussulman law. Your Excellency succeeded to the property of Almass Alee Khan as being that of a person intestate, who had no legal heir nor successor. If Almass had disposed of his property by will, and as a dependant of the British Government had communicated that disposition to me, I should unquestionably have thought it my duty to recommend to your Excellency those measures which I urge to you in the case of Tuhseen; and the sentiments and instructions of the Government on the occasion of the death of Almass were explicit, as to the great impropriety of your Excellency's endeavouring to wrest from the servants or dependants of that Aumil any part of the money or property which he was supposed to have bestowed

bestowed on them in his life-time; thus clearly authorizing the inference, that a testamentary disposition of that property would have been considered by the British Government in the same light in which the will of Tuhseen has been viewed. And, indeed, the degree of authority and power which were exercised by Almass in his life-time, with your Excellency's sanction and concurrence, to an extent which induced the validity of the sunnuds of that Aumil for rent-free lands to a number of your subordinate subjects, was so obviously and totally inconsistent with the legal condition of a slave, that the assertion of such a right by your Excellency to invalidate the acts of Almass with regard to his personal property, could never on any plausible ground be admitted. The gifts and grants of Almass Alee Khan in his life-time were accordingly supported by our Government to the utmost possible extent, by an earnest recommendation to your Excellency to abstain from molesting his dependants on account of the property bestowed on them; and the remaining property of Almass was assumed and appropriated by your Excellency with the ready consent of our Government, on no other ground in the world than that of his dying intestate without any lawful heir. On the same principle exactly, but with the additional legitimate motive of the superior claims of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the decided interference of our Government in favour of his relations and dependants, the will of this person has been supported; and I have been instructed to execute, if it be possible with your Excellency's concurrence, the benevolent purposes of this will.

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Your Excellency has been pleased to assert, that it is "generally known" to the world that your Excellency's valuable jewels, your wardrobe, armoury, "&c. were entrusted to the charge of Tuhseen, and that the admixture or "confusion of the personal effects of the deceased with the public property "of your Government should legally invalidate his will." Yet your Excellency cannot have forgotten, that the dismissal of Tuhseen Alee Khan from every office of the smallest importance which he formerly held, save the superintendence of the bullock-sheds and camp equipage, with the nuzarut of your Excellency's muhl and the khoord muhls of your father and brother, had but recently taken place at the period of my arrival at your Excellency's Court: that shortly after my arrival, and to my great concern and regret, this faithful and meritorious servant was superseded in the charge of your Excellency's muhl by Hoshmund, and that the superintendence of the bullocks and camp equipage became a labour without any charge or responsibility, from which Tuhseen was most anxious to be relieved. If any part of your Excellency's property had remained in the charge of Tuhseen on those occasions, is it possible, I respectfully inquire, that among the various complaints and accusations on other grounds which your Excellency was then daily conveying to me, the charge of embezzlement or of a breach of trust should never have been mentioned nor thought of? Independently of the character of Tuhseen, which for scrupulous honesty and integrity was never, I am confident, surpassed in the person of any one of your Excellency's servants, I am fully justified in asserting, that if the smallest suspicion of his retaining any part of your Excellency's property, or confusing it with his own, had ever entered into your Excellency's mind, it must have been eagerly communicated to me, as a ground of accusation against a person who had uniformly laboured under your displeasure. An imputation, therefore, of this nature, after his death, can surely never be considered by your Excellency as a fair ground for invalidating his will; and, in addition to this argument, I submit that your Excellency's repeated refusal to comply with my suggestion of the appointment of a person to examine the effects of the deceased and challenge your Excellency's property, is a fair ground for my inferring your original conviction that no charge of embezzlement could be proved. But admitting the suspicion to remain, the opportunity of proving or removing it is still reserved to your Excellency, for the whole of the effects of the deceased are exactly in the same situation as they were at the moment of his death, under the charge of the Company's sepoy: nay, his books of accounts and their vouchers, every paper belonging to the deceased, are ready for inspection by your Excellency, or by a person to be appointed for that purpose, whenever you think proper to appoint one.

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In reply to your Excellency's remark, that "the testamentary disposition of property by a slave can never be proper without the consent of his master, that Tuhseen Alee Khan should have apprized you of his intention, and that there was no occasion for secrecy, &c." I have already submitted my opinion, that Tuhseen Alee Khan cannot be legally considered as a slave. The declaration of his intentions regarding his property to your Excellency might have been proper and becoming, I admit, and would in all probability have been made, but for the natural diffidence which was created in the mind of the deceased by your Excellency's constant displeasure. But I see no reason whatever to infer any particular anxiety in the deceased to conceal his intentions from your Excellency; and, on the contrary, the whole of his proceedings for a considerable time before his death tend to establish an opposite opinion. The preparation of his will and letter to my address, as well as of his arzee to the Governor-General, must have occupied a considerable time. While these documents were preparing, his servants were employed by his orders in collecting his property into one place, the house which he occupied, and making inventories of all his effects. Those measures were executed in open day, and in the presence of your Excellency's Hurkarras, in constant attendance on Tuhseen, and inquisitive regarding his proceedings to a degree which he frequently complained of. When those measures were carried into effect, Tuhseen solicited a visit from Doctor Wilson, as an old and respected friend, to be a witness of the execution of his will, and to attest its authenticity to me. This visit was particularly public, and every circumstance which attended it must doubtless have been reported to your Excellency on the day on which it took place, as indeed it appears to me to have been so intended by the testator: and, consequently, although in fact the concealment of a will be no objection to its validity, but, on the contrary, in ordinary cases, tends rather to confirm it, as a proof of the testator's complete possession of his intellects at the time of making his will; (for few persons of sound judgment reveal such purposes in their life-time, aware of the confusion which may arise from their intentions being published prematurely); yet even this objection being obviated in the mind of Tuhseen, by a consideration of the justice and power of the Government to which his will was entrusted, there was obviously no motive for concealment on his part, nor was any secrecy observed.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that he should have obtained a written acquittance from you, or should have stated explicitly in his will and in the arzees which accompanied it, that he was not your Excellency's slave, nor responsible for any of your property, I submit that declarations to this effect in a will are equally uncommon and superfluous.

The testator was conscious of his title to dispose of his property by will, and unaware of any legal objection to that title, and committing the execution of his will to the care of the British Government, who had constantly mediated between your Excellency and him by your mutual desire, he confided in the wisdom and justice of that Government for removing every objection that might eventually be offered by your Excellency to the disposition which he had made of his property.

Your Excellency has been pleased to allude, on the present occasion, to an assurance which I submitted to your Excellency at the time of my departure to Fyzabad, and which I have great pleasure in repeating and confirming on this occasion. The preservation of your Excellency's just rights has never been neglected by the British Government, nor has that Government ever been accessary to your loss. If the property left by Tuhseen Alee Khan could be considered to belong to your Excellency, I should surrender it without any hesitation, and should seek such provision from your bounty for the indigent dependants of the deceased, on another obvious ground, as conducive to your Excellency's reputation. But considering the effects of Tuhseen as entirely at his own disposal by law, and considering himself and his relations to be justly and eminently entitled to the support and protection of our Government, I am bound in the discharge of my duty to accomplish the purposes of his will, and secure to his relations what he bequeathed to them.

Your Excellency has next been pleased to compare the present discussion with that vexatious and unhappy altercation which arose regarding the khoord muhl,

muhl, and to express your surprise and concern at the termination, contrary to your views of a question on which you asked my advice, and complied implicitly with my suggestions. The obligation on your Excellency to seek the advice of our Government, and the advantage which must ever arise to you from a cordial acquiescence in its counsels, are in my judgment peculiarly exemplified by the case of Tuhseen Alee Khan. The connexion of that person with the British Government and his claims on its protection, were such that any attempt or intention on the part of your Excellency to act with a reference to him, independently of my friendly advice, would have argued an unfriendly disposition towards the Government, and must have occasioned a most urgent remonstrance on my part, which would have been unpleasant to your Excellency's feelings. Had I, even, in dereliction of my duty, refrained from remonstrating on that occasion, and your Excellency had taken possession of the property, the question of right would not have been affected by that measure, and the final instructions of the Government must still have been executed by me in a manner distressing to my mind, because unpleasant to your Excellency's feelings, by my reclaiming the property from your Excellency, to be disposed of in the terms of the will. Let me beg of your Excellency to consider the circumstances that must necessarily have attended such an issue of the question as this, and the manner in which those unhappy consequences have been avoided; the advantage of your concurrence with me, and of your compliance with my respectful and friendly suggestions on this as on every other occasion will then be sufficiently apparent. The result of the present discussion, whatever it may be, can never interrupt the harmony which subsists between the two States; and the measures to be ultimately adopted must appear to your Excellency's subjects, as I trust they will actually prove, to be executed by mutual consent for the advancement of your Excellency's reputation.

Your Excellency's allusion to my request of the nomination of a person to examine the effects of the deceased, and to reclaim the public property of your Government, has been already satisfactorily explained. I repeat my readiness to give up every article which your Excellency may claim, without any other demonstration of your right to it than your Excellency's verbal assurance.

I acknowledge the truth of your remark, that the children of Chutra Mull Seth, as Hindoos, cannot be the heirs of a Mussulman; but the answer to this remark, in as far as your Excellency is concerned, has been given in a satisfactory manner by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, in his Lordship's instructions to me already submitted to your Excellency. The right of inheritance in those orphans has never been alleged by the Government; but their claim, on the ground of humanity and of the faithful services of Tuhseen, to the trifling residue of his effects bequeathed to them by the terms of his will, is distinct from the right of inheritance, and has been urged to your Excellency, on principles the justice of which must be admitted, because they are not injurious to the rights of any preferable claimant.

Your Excellency has recalled to my mind an observation which I had the honour of submitting to you during our discussion of the question of reform, and of the claims of Hoosein Alee Khan and Alee Nuckee, namely, that the satisfactory adjustment of those questions would relieve your Excellency's mind from the pain of altercation with our Government, and would put an end to all dispute and contention between your Excellency and me. Such, indeed, was the ardent wish of my heart, and my reasonable expectation at the time, and still continues to be so. I consider the present question, though unnecessarily agitated by your Excellency, to be one which you will never allow to interrupt the harmony between us.

Your Excellency's inference, however, from the observation above quoted on my part, would seem to require some comment. If your Excellency has been pleased to infer, that with the happy adjustment of those questions the right and duty of the British Government to take a friendly interest in your Excellency's concerns were to cease, and that no measure of your Government should in future form the subject of remonstrance or advice, this surely is an inference which no remark of mine could give ground for. The expectation which I naturally

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formed, and on which I dwelt with such eagerness to your Excellency, was this : that the happy result of those discussions which had lasted for so many years, to your Excellency's constant uneasiness, embittering, as you were pleased to admit, every comfort and enjoyment of your life, would of necessity tend to impress you with a due sense of the propriety, as well as the importance to your happiness and the general prosperity of your concerns, of receiving the advice of our Government in the spirit which dictated that advice, with ready and cheerful acquiescence, and preventing the recurrence of disputes which could operate only to your Excellency's prejudice, since the real object of our advice could be no other than your advantage. My remarks to your Excellency on the occasion above referred to had obviously this, and this alone, for their motive ; and it could never have entered into my contemplation that your Excellency should use those remarks to oppose the right of the British Government to interfere in a matter of so little importance abstractedly, and yet so essential to your Excellency's reputation, as the execution of the will of Tuhseen.

Your Excellency's apprehension of the evil consequences in a future state to the testator from the due execution of his will, is a subject on which I am not qualified to enlarge : yet those consequences may with confidence be committed to the judgment of a benevolent Creator, who pardons the errors of his creatures, when the motives of their conduct are just ; since there appears to be no injustice in the disposition which Tuhseen Alee Khan has made of his property, bestowing it on his needy relations and a few of his most faithful domestics, who continued attached to him until death.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that the erection of a monument over the deceased, and the other provisions of his will, should be left to your Excellency's discretion, that his servants should trust to your generosity, and in this case a provision might be made for them : if your Excellency will be pleased to detail the arrangements which you may feel disposed to substitute for the execution of the will of the deceased, I shall be happy to take them into consideration, and submit my sentiments in reply.

Of the injurious effects to your Excellency of the ratification of the will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, by its becoming generally known to the world, and encouraging similar practices in others, I confess that I am totally unaware. If your Excellency has been led to apprehend that the interference of the British Government on this occasion is intended to form a precedent for the general support of your servants and subjects in the disposition of their property by will, or for suspending the right to escheat as the privilege of Indian princes, I have no hesitation in assuring you that the apprehension is totally groundless. The practice of confiscating the property of public servants at their death, and reducing their posterity to beggary, is one, I am free to admit, that can never be approved by our Government, because contrary to its fundamental principles. Yet your Excellency must be perfectly aware, that various instances of it have occurred in this country since I had the honour of residing at your Excellency's Court, without any interference on my part : more particularly the case of Ruttun Chund, your Excellency's most favourite and confidential minister, which is universally known throughout India ; as also the case of Almass Alee Khan, whose property your Excellency possesses ; and even the case under discussion : for your Excellency's resumption of Tuhseen Alee Khan's jagier has proceeded with my perfect concurrence. In short, the privilege of resuming and appropriating the jagiers and effects of your Excellency's subjects and servants has never been opposed by our Government, and has been exerted in the case of Tuhseen ; and the only point in discussion between your Excellency and the British Government, with a reference to this faithful and meritorious servant, is, whether your Excellency should retain or give up to his indigent relations and dependants a few houses of inconsiderable value, and other trifling effects, in compliance with the earnest recommendation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, your Excellency's best friend, who can have no other interest in this advice than a genuine regard for your reputation.

I have examined the statement of the allowances of the khoord muhl of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and compared it with a former statement delivered to me by
Tuhseen

Tuhseen Alee Khan. The latter exhibits a towfeer or saving from the general amount, by the death of a number of the women, to the extent of 1,758 rupees per mensem, instead of 331, as explained by your Excellency; and the application of the above-mentioned sum to increase the provisions of the survivors would put a stop to the clamour of those women, and relieve your Excellency's mind, as well as conduce to your reputation.

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A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 23d ultimo, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of his Lordship in Council, the annexed translation of a paper which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, in reply to my official note regarding the property of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, transmitted to his Excellency on the 20th ultimo.

2. This paper is by no means satisfactory. It affords the hope of a precarious provision for the servants and dependants of Tuhseen, but takes no notice whatever of the grandchildren of Chutra Mull Seth, to whom the residue of the property was bequeathed, and who were the natural objects of the peculiar regard and anxiety of the deceased, as explicitly referred to in his will, and in his arzee to the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

3. I submit for the consideration of the Government, in the case of its being ultimately thought advisable to gratify the mind of the Vizier by surrendering the property of Tuhseen to him on certain indispensable conditions, that a direct address from the Right Honourable the Governor-General to his Excellency, recommending the grandchildren of Chutra Mull to his particular favour and generosity, might be attended with beneficial effects; and further, in the case of the final resolution of the Government to support the provisions of the will, as originally and justly decided on, that a direct communication of this design from the head of the Government to the Vizier would, in all probability, preclude any further opposition or vexatious objection on his part to the measures which I am instructed to adopt.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
2d December 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 30th November, 1813.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have perused the paper of remarks which you sent to me in answer to my communication regarding the property left by the late Tuhseen Alee Khan. In that paper it is stated, that when I detail the arrangements which I propose as a substitute for the execution of the will, you will consider them and submit a reply. Having full confidence in your friendship, I convey my wishes on that point explicitly as follows. Let the whole and every part of the Khan's effects be made over to me, and remain with my Government, to which they belong. I shall give orders for building a monument, in such a manner as to tend to the happiness of the deceased; and the monthly allowances of his servants shall also be established, and their attendance shall only be occasionally required. In this manner my just rights will be preserved, and the deceased will be saved from the punishment in a future state of defeating the just rights and exciting the displeasure of his sovereign: because thus the affairs connected with his demise will be settled to my satisfaction, which must conduce to his happiness hereafter; whereas, otherwise, which God forbid, it must be otherwise. I refrain from replying to the other parts of your

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your note, because it could only produce altercation, which I am ever disposed to avoid.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That a letter be prepared in the office of the Persian Secretary, to the address of the Nawaub Vizier, in conformity to the terms of the following draft, and forwarded to the Resident at Lucknow, to be by him presented to his Excellency.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 31st December 1813.)

The Resident at your Excellency's Court has communicated to me the result of his application to your Excellency on the subject of the will of your late faithful servant, Tuhseen Alee Khan, whose extraordinary claims to your Excellency's regard and favour, and to the consideration of the British Government as the intimate friend and ally of your house, it is unnecessary for me to dwell upon.

I will frankly avow to your Excellency, that your prompt and liberal acquiescence in the wishes of the British Government regarding the provisions of Tuhseen Alee Khan would not only have been highly gratifying to me, but would in my opinion have reflected honour on your Excellency's government and name. But as your Excellency entertains a different opinion, and the arguments and representations of Major Baillie have not produced that conviction on your Excellency's mind which was to be hoped, and as the maintenance of the family and dependants of Tuhseen Alee Khan may be equally provided for in a manner which cannot possibly appear to your Excellency to involve the objection which you state to the recognition of his will, the original proposition will, in deference to your Excellency, be withdrawn.

This resolution which originates in a proposition submitted to me by Major Baillie, has been adopted in the persuasion, and indeed with the full conviction, that your Excellency will feel it becoming your dignity, your justice, and your character for generosity, to settle on the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth a provision adequate to their maintenance, and grant suitable allowances to the servants of Tuhseen Alee Khan, mentioned by name in his will.

By this arrangement, without the hazard of any sacrifice of your authority, such as you apprehend would result from permitting Tuhseen Alee Khan's will to be carried into effect, your Excellency will enjoy the gratification of rewarding in some degree the services of a zealous and faithful officer, combined with all the credit resulting from such an act, and will promote the satisfaction of the British Government.

I refer your Excellency for more detailed communication of my sentiments to Major Baillie.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing draft of a letter to the Nawaub Vizier be transmitted to the Resident at Lucknow, together with the following letter.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 23d ultimo, and 2d instant, reporting your proceedings, under the instructions of the Governor-General in Council, relative to the will of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, and to communicate to you the following observations and instructions in reply.

2. Before

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from Secretary to
Government.

2. Before I enter on that subject, however, I am directed to advert to a general principle which appears to his Lordship in Council to be peculiarly applicable to the state of our connection with the Vizier, and to the nature of the ordinary topics of negotiation between the British Government and that Prince, and which has materially influenced the deliberations of his Lordship in Council on the present question. It is, indeed, too obvious, his Lordship in Council observes, to require to be stated as a formal proposition, that the success of our negotiations with the Vizier, as well as with any other prince or State, will be best promoted by abstaining from the agitation of questions of minor consideration leading to no important results, but calculated to produce irritation and dissatisfaction in the mind of the opposite party, the effect of which must be to weaken and exhaust that influence which should be reserved unimpaired for objects of higher moment, and to expose to the hazard of failure, or at least to interruption and counteraction, the accomplishment of our views in affairs of real consequence.

3. The Governor-General in Council does not see any reason to apprehend that our influence in the Vizier's administration will be impaired, by yielding to his prejudices and prepossessions on points on which we are not required nor entitled to oppose them, and which do not involve any essential interest of either State, while we steadily and firmly maintain our right of interference in those which do. On the contrary, his Lordship in Council is disposed to believe, that by avoiding such discussions, or by judicious and well-timed concessions in points of the former description, and reserving the language and tone of urgent remonstrance and demand for occasions more suited to their employment, we shall be the better able to carry those measures in which our decided interposition is required by the urgency of the case, and justified by the provisions of existing engagements.

4. The instructions which I am about to convey to you are framed with reference to the principles here stated; and the Governor-General in Council confidently trusts that the course of proceeding intended to be pursued in the case of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, accompanied as it will be by the explicit declaration of the Governor-General's sentiments on the question of reform, which his Lordship proposes to convey without delay to the Vizier, will tend to promote rather than to retard the accomplishment of that salutary and important arrangement.

5. I now proceed to the subject of your despatch above acknowledged.

6. The Governor-General in Council has perceived with concern, the determined opposition of his Excellency the Vizier to the desire which you have conveyed to his Excellency, on the part of the British Government, to carry into effect the provisions of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, and considers the refusal of his Excellency to comply with the dying request of a person so long and faithfully attached to his family, and to whose firmness and integrity he is himself largely indebted for his succession to the musnud of Oude, to reflect discredit on his Excellency's character.

7. Whatever may be the sentiments of his Excellency in Council on this subject, however, the decision of the British Government on a question involving the independent exercise of the rights of the Vizier over his own subjects and servants must be determined, not by the dictates of personal feeling, but by considerations of public equity and good faith.

8. Entertaining the warmest sense of Tuhseen Alee Khan's merits and services, and of his attachment to both States, and convinced of the obligation imposed on the Vizier, by every principle of gratitude and honour, to fulfil the reasonable and just requests of the deceased, as well as of the right and duty of this Government to urge it to the utmost extent compatible with a due regard to his Excellency's right of final judgment in his own concerns, it still does not appear to the Governor-General in Council that the British Government would be warranted, by the considerations above stated, in endeavouring to carry this measure against the declared opposition of the Vizier. The duty of the British Government is performed by the sincere and zealous exertion of the influence

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from Secretary to
Government.

which it derives from its relation with the Government of Oude in favour of the family and dependants of Tuhseen; but the interference of the British Government must be bounded by these limits, and the Governor-General in Council cannot reconcile to his sense, either of justice or expediency, the prosecution of this demand to the consequences to which it would lead, if the principle of unlimited interference were admitted.

9. The reasoning which you have so ably employed to prove the right of Tuhseen Alee Khan to dispose of his personal property under the Mohummudan law, however justly used as an argument to influence the Vizier's judgment, does not, in the opinion of his Excellency in Council, supply the want of other grounds for the authoritative interference of the British Government in this particular case.

10. Viewing the question in this light, and adverting also to the opinion expressed by you, that the cordial acquiescence of the Vizier can scarcely be looked for, his Lordship is compelled to relinquish the expectation of prevailing on the Vizier to leave the personal property of the deceased to be disposed of according to the terms of his will; and it is accordingly the desire of his Lordship in Council that the property in question may be given up to the Vizier.

11. Although this proceeding seems to be unavoidable under the circumstances of the case, the Governor-General in Council is nevertheless desirous of prevailing on the Vizier, by friendly representation and earnest appeal to his humane and honourable feelings, to make a decent and proper provision for the grandchildren of Chutra Mull Seth, and for the adherents and servants of Tusheen Alee Khan mentioned in his will.

12. The Governor-General in Council trusts that a compromise on this principle may be effected without material difficulty, as it will be free from the appearance of the objection which seems to form a principal difficulty with his Excellency, namely, that the execution of the will will publicly proclaim the violation of his rights, and encourage his other servants in similar practices. It is scarcely necessary to advert to the groundless nature of this objection, since the case of Tuhseen is singular, and it is morally impossible that a parallel one should arise in future. His Excellency's reference to the Bhow Begum is entirely irrelevant, the situation and circumstances of her Highness having no analogy to that of Tuhseen, a menial servant of the Vizier and his predecessors; you are accordingly desired to renew the negotiation on the basis above stated.

13. With a view to assist your representations, and to manifest the earnest desire of the Government to obtain from the Vizier's justice and liberality a suitable provision for the family and dependants of his deceased servant, a letter will be addressed to his Excellency by the Governor-General, to the effect of the enclosed draft.

14. The resolution for withdrawing the proposition relative to Tuhseen Alee Khan's will is stated to have originated in a position submitted by you, because this declaration, while it is consistent with the fact, the measure having been suggested in the first instance by the tenor of the ninth and following paragraphs of your despatch of the 23d of November, will impress upon the Vizier's mind the desirable conviction, that he owes this act of concession to the concurrence of your advice and recommendation with the sentiments and disposition of the Governor-General in Council. It will be highly expedient that, by the tenor of your communications to the Vizier under the present instructions, you should countenance this belief.

15. His Lordship has, you will observe, refrained from stating the precise extent of the provision to be made by his Excellency the Vizier, deeming it to be more consistent with the spirit of this proceeding and with respect for the Vizier, to leave the decision of this point to the unconstrained dictates of his Excellency's just and humane consideration of the case. At the same time, it will be proper that you should be prepared to meet any reference to you from the Vizier, with a recommendation that the provisions to be made for the persons named in the will should be regulated as nearly as possible by the declared wishes

wishes of the deceased, and that the allowance to be assigned to the residuary legatees should be sufficient to maintain them in ease and comfort.

16. The Governor-General's letter to the Vizier will be transmitted to you by the Persian Secretary as soon as it can be prepared.

17. You will be pleased to combine with your negotiation of this affair a renewal of your endeavours to obtain some melioration of the condition of the members of the khoord muhl of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, whose situation was adverted to in the instructions of the 3d of September last, and which does not appear to have received that consideration which a feeling of humanity, equally with a just regard for his own reputation and the honour of his family demand. This is a subject on which it is obvious that your proceedings must be confined to representation and advice, which, however, you are authorized to offer in the name of the Governor-General in Council.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
31st December 1813.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 7th January 1814.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I request the favour of your submitting to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council the enclosed copies of a correspondence which has recently passed between his Excellency the Vizier and me, regarding the payment and distribution of the pension assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan.

2. It must be totally unnecessary to recall to his Lordship in Council's recollection the original object of the discussion between the British Government and the Vizier, regarding the property of the late Hyder Beg Khan and the provision assigned to his family. This object was unquestionably, in the first instance, no other than the restitution by Akbur Alee Khan to his own legitimate brother of a share of the property of their father, which the former had unjustly appropriated; and on the failure of this primary object through the contumacy of Akbur Alee Khan and the undue influence of the Vizier, my negotiation with his Excellency was directed to the only alternative which remained for redressing the wrongs of Hoosein Alee Khan, by obtaining the restoration in his favour of the provision originally assigned for the support of the whole family, and resumed by his Excellency the Vizier.

3. The partial success of my negotiation of this latter question, or the compromise effected with the Vizier, could obviously, therefore, have reference, as its direct and immediate object, to the purpose only of securing a comfortable if not a liberal provision for Hoosein Alee Khan, combined with the means of subsistence, if procurable, for the other indigent branches of his family, to the manifest and necessary exclusion of Akbur Alee Khan, whose unjust and inhuman treatment of his younger legitimate brother had alone given rise to the discussion; and, indeed, at my conference with the Vizier, when the grant of this pension was promised, I expressly declared to his Excellency that no part of the allowance should be considered as intended for Akbur Alee Khan, who had entirely forfeited his claim to the consideration or protection of our Government, and in whose behalf we should never interfere.

4. Under this view of the question, which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will, I doubt not, consider to be just, it must excite his Lordship in Council's surprise that his Excellency the Vizier should have been induced, not only to combat the distribution which I proposed to be made, in compliance with his Excellency's desire, of the pension assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan, but to withhold the payment of the pension for a period of two months, with the view of applying a part of it to the maintenance of the family or

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of Akbur Alee Khan, thus affording another unequivocal proof of the unhappy propension of his mind to oppose the views of our Government, and of his bias to the side of injustice, which he has uniformly supported throughout the course of this long and vexatious discussion.

5. It is a source of some consolation to me to add, that his Excellency has been induced in the end to make payment of the pension assigned, and in so far to withdraw his opposition to the arrangement which I had proposed to him on principles apparently unexceptionable, and in which he at first acquiesced. Yet I shall not be enabled to consider the arrangement proposed as conclusive, nor to consign the amount of the pension, which is now deposited in my treasury, to the hands of Hoosein Alee Khan, till I receive a communication of the sentiments of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council on the subject of this despatch, which I beg you to obtain and convey to me at as early a period as may be practicable.

6. The Vizier has hitherto delayed to commence the measures of reform in the manner which I deemed it my duty to suggest to him, with a view to ensure their success, or to preclude his ascribing their failure to any radical defect in the system recommended by our Government for his adoption. His Excellency has also suspended or prevented the execution of his orders for the complete redress of the grievances of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, who has, however, resumed the possession of a part of his hereditary rights, and I have some reason to hope for the gradual restoration of the whole of them. But my recent proceedings with a reference to this question, if necessary, and my proceedings and correspondence with the Vizier on the more important question of reform, shall form the subjects of a separate despatch to you in the course of a few days.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
17th December 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 26th October 1813.)

Keeping two objects in view, namely, the affluent circumstances of Hoosein Alee Khan during his father's life-time, and his numerous family, consisting of thirty sons and daughters, many of them arrived at the age of puberty and marriageable, besides a number of women who depend on him for their support, I submit for your Excellency's consideration, that the provision assigned for his maintenance, and that of the other needy relations and dependants of the late Hyder Beg Khan, with the exception of Akbur Alee Khan and his family, be divided into two portions of 1,500 and 500 rupees; the former of these sums, namely, an allowance of 1,500 rupees per mensem to be appropriated to the maintenance of Hoosein Alee Khan and his numerous family; and though this sum be by no means sufficient to maintain them in that degree of ease and affluence to which they were accustomed in former times, it will supply every real want to them, and afford most of the comforts of life.

On a minute enquiry into the circumstances of the other surviving relations of the late Hyder Beg Khan, extending to the number of forty persons, as enumerated and described in the accompanying list, it appears that from a pension of a lac of rupees per annum, originally assigned to the family under the management and control of Akbur Alee Khan, an allowance of only fifteen rupees per mensem was enjoyed by each of his brothers and sisters, the offspring of concubines or slaves, and a still smaller provision to their mothers; and consequently it is obvious that a distribution of the remaining five hundred rupees of the pension assigned by your Excellency among those subordinate branches, will afford to each individual a far more liberal provision than they have ever hitherto enjoyed.

Accordingly I submit to your Excellency a statement of the distribution proposed, which I trust that your Excellency will approve, and which I doubt

doubt not, in that event, will also be honoured by the approbation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council ; and considering this point to be settled, it only remains for your Excellency's liberality to determine at what date the provision should commence. On this point I shall be totally silent, having full reliance on your Excellency's bounty and generosity for the commencement of the allowance from such a period as may relieve Hoosein Alee Khan from his embarrassments, and also for your Excellency's remission of all former largesses to the Khan.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Statement referred to in the foregoing.

To the younger brothers, viz.

Asghur Alee Khan, per mensem	Rupees 25	
Mehen Alee Khan	25	
Ahmud Alee Khan	25	
Rumazan Alee Khan	25	
Moozuffer Alee Khan	25	
To children of Nawauz Alee Khan, deceased	20	
	—	145

To sisters, &c.

Begum Jan per mensem	Rupees 20	
Potie Begum	20	
Hoosmet-oon-Nissa Begum	20	
Vizier-oon-Nissa Begum	20	
Adiena Begum	20	
Koodrut-oon-Nissa Begum	20	
Hajee Begum	20	
Rumuzanee Begum	20	
Children of Hooseynie Begum, deceased	20	
	—	180

Two nieces of the late Nawaub Hyder Beg Khan :

Jungulee Khanum	15	
Beebee Murjid	15	
	—	30

To the subordinate wives and concubines of the late Nawaub :
1st class, five women.

To Gorie Khanum	10	
Mah Khanum	9	
Purie Bae	9	
Begma	9	
Misree Khanum	9	
	—	46

Second class, seven women.

Ullae Bae	7	
Mendhoo	7	
Ruttun Bae	7	
Musietee	7	
Mumoola Bae	7	
Juwaher Bae	7	
Goomanie, <i>Gaen</i> (female singer)	7	
	—	49

Third class, six women.

Raj Bae	5	
Rumzanie, <i>Gaen</i>	5	
Azeemen	5	
Ameerun	5	
Seedun, <i>Negress</i>	5	
Sud Burg	5	
	—	30

Carried forward 480

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Brought forward..... 480

Fourth class, five women.

Amrut Baee	4
Rungrese Baee	4
Gurnaira, <i>Gaeen</i>	4
Oojagur Baee	4
Doordana	4
	— 20
Total	Rupees 500

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 9th December 1813.)

A period of more than two months has elapsed since the happy adjustment of the disputed points between your Excellency and the British Government, one of which was the grant of an allowance to Hoosein Alee Khan; and on this particular question I had the honour of addressing your Excellency separately, by a letter dated the 26th of October last, to which I have not yet been honoured with a reply; and Hoosein Alee Khan being justly importunate with me on the subject of his allowance, I take the liberty of transmitting to your Excellency his receipt for two months' allowance, drawn up in the terms which I suggested in my former letter, and which your Excellency verbally approved. The payment of the amount of this receipt will be esteemed as a particular favour.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 10th December 1813.)

I have received two letters from you; the first dated the 26th of October, conveying a statement of the proposed distribution of the monthly pension granted by me for the maintenance of Hoosein Alee Khan, the younger of the two legitimate sons, and the other needy relations and dependants of the late Hyder Beg Khan; and the second bearing date the 9th instant, containing receipts from Hoosein Alee Khan for two months' pay, and requesting that the amount might be paid.

The truth of the matter is: that in order to please you I granted this pension for the maintenance of all the children and grand-children, and other relations of the deceased, each of whom, the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan not excepted, should receive a part of the money; for the relationship of these persons to the late Hyder Beg Khan cannot be denied, and they are needy, and helpless, and blameless. Their exclusion, therefore, from a share in this provision seems to me to be totally without a cause; and, further, they possess an equal right with the other descendants and needy relations of the deceased to a share of the compensation for the sayer and gardens of Gurethie. Let this matter also be arranged, and their shares of that compensation be adjusted. The commencement of the pension is the same, of course, with the date of my letter on the subject to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, Earl of Minto.

The receipts for the money are returned to you.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 11th December 1813).

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's letter, dated the 10th instant, and I am concerned to observe that your Excellency has been pleased to disapprove the distribution which I suggested to you of the provision assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan and the other needy dependants of his father. The nature of the protracted discussions between the British Government and your Excellency which led to the assignment of this provision, and the principle of the compromise which I agreed to with a view to your Excellency's satisfaction, are too obvious to require explanation. The original claim of Hoosein Alee Khan against his elder brother Akbur Alee Khan, which gave rise to the discussion with your Excellency, was simply a demand of his own individual share of the property left by their father, to which none of the other children laid claim, nor were their names ever mentioned in the discussion; and consequently it must be obvious to your Excellency that none of the descendants of Hyder Beg Khan could be entitled, as a matter of right, to any share of the provision assigned, in compliance with the desire of our Government, for the maintenance of Hoosein Alee Khan: so that the portion of the allowance in question which is proposed to be given to them might be considered as a gratuitous concession on the part of the British Government and of Hoosein Alee Khan for the maintenance of his indigent relations, from a fund which was exclusively his own; since the original fund for the maintenance of all the relations was not the amount of the compromise, but that of the provision compromised, namely, the sum of a lac of rupees per annum assigned by your Excellency's predecessor for the support of the family of Hyder Beg at the instance of the Marquis Cornwallis. Had this provision been continued, every one of the relations of the deceased would doubtless have had a right to a share of it; but with regard to the amount of the present limited provision the case is obviously different: and independently of this remark, I must beg your Excellency to recollect, that subsequently to the transmission of my letter, which contained a statement of the distribution proposed, on my asking your Excellency personally whether you approved or disapproved of that statement, you were pleased to reply in these words, "My business is merely to pay the money, and whatever you suggest I approve." Your Excellency's sentiments on that occasion were certainly different from those which are conveyed in your letter before me, and it is a source of real disappointment to me to observe so material a change in your sentiments in so short a period of time.

With a reference to your Excellency's remark, that the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan are poor, and needy, and blameless, it seems sufficient that I recall to your Excellency's recollection the proceedings of the Adawlut at Lucknow on the claim of Hoosein Alee Khan against his brother, in the course of which the defendant's usurpation of the whole of his father's property was proved to your Excellency's satisfaction; thus precluding the belief of his poverty, which was subsequently rendered still more incredible by his voluntary offer to me of the sum of two lacs and a half of rupees in satisfaction of the claims of his brother, and more recently by the offer of a considerable sum of money by the wife of Akbur Alee Khan, with a view to her husband's enlargement. How these several offers can be reconciled with a belief of the poverty of this branch of the family I leave it to your Excellency to judge.

Your Excellency has been pleased to suggest, that the rents and duties of Gurethie be also distributed among the whole of the relations of Hyder Beg, and that the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan have a share of them. The decision of the British Government on this question, with regard to the arrears of the compensation adjudged to the family of Hyder Beg, was that a moiety of the sum should be paid to Hoosein Alee Khan as his own share, and a moiety as the share of his brother, in part of his established demand on account of the inheritance of their father, these two brothers being considered as the only legitimate sons or lawful heirs of their father. With regard to the future rents and profits of Gurethie, a consideration of humanity induced the British Government to decree that some portion of those rents should be assigned for the support of the subordinate and illegitimate branches of the family, in the proportion in which they were maintained from the provision of a lac of rupees under the original management of Akbur Alee Khan. But the amount of the
rents

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rents was so small as to preclude a distribution on the principle above stated, with any material advantage to the subordinate branches of the family, and therefore the application of the whole was committed to the justice and humanity of Hoosein Alee Khan, on which the British Government was disposed to rely; and it has become my duty to take care that this reliance shall not be disappointed. If your Excellency, on the same principle, had been pleased to commit the distribution of the pension (which your bounty has assigned) to the justice and liberality of Hoosein Alee Khan, under my guidance and control, your confidence would not have been misplaced, and the present discussion might have been avoided.

With regard to the commencement of the pension, which your Excellency has been pleased to make coeval with your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, instead of assigning to ~~it~~ a much earlier date, as I confess I was led to expect, or even the date of our conference, at which the grant of the pension was declared to me, I can only express my concern at the disappointment of my natural expectation, and submit to your Excellency's pleasure. I entreat your Excellency to inform me whether or not the pension is to be paid, that I may report the matter to Government, which I am anxious to do without delay.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 15th December 1813.)

I have received your letter dated the 17th of Zeehijj (11th December), in answer to mine of the 16th of Zeehijj (10th December), containing a denial of the right of Akbur Alee Khan's wife and children to any share of the pension assigned to the family of Hyder Beg, in compliance with the desire of the Governor-General, by your suggestion and advice, and stating that my former letter had disappointed your expectations. The truth of the matter is this: that what I wrote to you coincides exactly with the sentiments of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, as expressed in his letter to me, and therefore I see no reason why it should disappoint your expectations. It is my wish to avoid all dispute regarding matters that are already settled. I have granted an allowance of 2,000 rupees per mensem to Hoosein Alee Khan, and all the other children, grand-children, and needy dependants of Hyder Beg Khan, by your advice, in compliance with the desire of the Governor-General. The right of all the dependants of Hyder Beg to a share of the allowance in question may be inferred from the words of the Governor-General's letter, which are as follows: "I call upon your Excellency to restore to this unfortunate family the means of subsistence, of which they have been so long deprived, without any ground of alleged misconduct, excepting in the case of the elder brother, whose disgraceful and inhuman conduct towards his brother only constitutes an additional and most powerful argument for the restoration of the stipend in favour of the latter, and of those branches of the family who are left in a condition of distress by Akbur Alee Khan's unjust appropriation of the property of their deceased father."

If these words include all the relations and dependants of the deceased, it is proper that all of them be included in the distribution of the allowance, and otherwise I have no wish to depart from the object of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter. I send the sum of 4,000 sicca rupees, being the amount of the allowance for two months, from the 15th of Shuvvaul till the 14th of Zeehijj inclusive, as due to Hoosein Alee Khan.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written 16th December 1813.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, and after a most attentive consideration of the words of the Governor-General's letter, to which your Excellency has referred, I have no hesitation in assuring your Excellency that they seem to me to bear a different meaning from that which your Excellency has been pleased to assign to them. The expression "*a condition of distress*," in the first place, conveys, to my judgment, an express and particular exclusion of the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan from any share of the provision assigned, since it is obvious, and has been demonstrated in my former letter to your Excellency, that the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan are by no means in a condition of distress nor in any want of a provision. Secondly, I submit to your Excellency that as "the disgraceful and inhuman conduct of Akbur Alee Khan towards his brother" is stated by the Right Honourable the Governor-General as the most powerful argument for your Excellency's restoration of the pension, if a part of this pension were assigned to the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan, for whose maintenance he is bound to provide, it would follow that his personal crime must prove the source of a provision for his family, or in other words, for himself; a conclusion which your Excellency must admit to be as far from my Lord Minto's intention as justice can be from the reverse. In short, the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan, though, as your Excellency has justly observed, they be perfectly innocent and blameless, are by no means in a condition of distress; but, on the contrary, by Akbur Alee Khan's usurpation and crime, have been rendered totally independent of this provision, and therefore are expressly excluded, from the obvious intention of the words in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, to which your Excellency has been pleased to refer. But even admitting them to be needy, they can have no possible right to a share of an allowance assigned in compliance with the desire of the British Government for the support of Hoosein Alee Khan, whose condition alone formed the subject of the protracted discussion with your Excellency, which has thus at length been concluded, and in the whole course of which not the smallest notice was taken of the women or children of Akbur Alee Khan. If your Excellency be pleased to assign a separate provision for them, our Government can have no objection; but the distribution of the pension assigned, namely, that of two thousand rupees per mensem, can in my judgment be no otherwise arranged with justice to Hoosein Alee Khan, than in the manner already submitted. On these grounds I repeat my respectful suggestion, that your Excellency will be pleased to confirm the distribution which I had the honour of proposing, and to accept the receipt of Hoosein Alee Khan in token of your final approbation. This acquiescence on the part of your Excellency will put an end to vexatious discussion on a point that I considered to have been settled, and will supersede the necessity for any further reference to the Government before distribution of the pension can take place. It must otherwise become my duty to suspend the payment of any part of the money which your Excellency has been pleased to send to me, until a reference on the subject be made to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and I receive his Lordship's commands regarding the distribution of the pension.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Shortly after the apparently happy and final adjustment of the principal questions in dispute between the British Government and his Excellency the Vizier, it was proposed to his Excellency by me, with a view to the satisfactory conduct of the system of reform in his administration, that we should have weekly conferences at the palace, or alternately at the palace and Residency, for the purpose of concerting and deciding on the course of measures to be pursued and the support to be afforded to those measures. Accordingly, during the

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whole of the months of October and November last, this salutary arrangement was observed, and at every meeting with his Excellency I had the satisfaction of perceiving and inferring from his Excellency's remarks, that the advantages of the new system of administration were more and more impressed upon his mind, and that he was fully resolved to adopt the measures which I had proposed to him on a perfect conviction of their expedience.

2. At one of my conferences with the Vizier, in the beginning of the month of November, his Excellency requested me to commit to writing, for his guidance, the purport of the suggestions which I had offered to him, and assured me that they should be carried into effect; and I complied with his Excellency's requisition, by transmitting to him the paper of suggestions which forms a number of this despatch, and which I request the favour of your submitting to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council. This paper was accompanied, or preceded, by a Persian translation of one of the most important and comprehensive of the Regulations of our Government for the guidance of Collectors and Tehsildars, namely Regulation XXVII. of 1803 for the Ceded and Conquered Provinces, which I begged his Excellency to peruse with attention, and to compare with the suggestions which I had offered to him on various former occasions for the better administration of his revenue. The Vizier at a subsequent conference, and more particularly by a message through my Moonshee, expressed his general approbation of the principal measures which I proposed, assured me that the proclamations and instructions to Aumils and Ameens were preparing in the terms which I had suggested; and with a reference to some subordinate points, on which his Excellency desired explanation, he directed his Dewan and chief revenue officer, Dya-Krishen, to attend me, for the purpose of stating his doubts and receiving my explanations.

3. A conversation with Raae Dya-Krishen had long been the object of my desire. This person had originally used his influence with the Vizier to prevent his Excellency's acquiescence in the system of assessment and collection of the revenue recommended by our Government; and as the particular nature of his office, as well as the degree of his master's confidence which he was supposed to possess, rendered it important to satisfy his mind of the advantages of the system recommended, I was anxious to have an opportunity of doing so before the measures of reform should commence. The result of my first conference with Dya-Krishen was satisfactory in the extreme. He appeared to be thoroughly convinced of the propriety of all the measures proposed, assured me that the Vizier was sincerely desirous to carry them into effect with my concurrence and support, and that he himself saw no obstacle whatever to the conclusion of a triennial settlement of the revenue in every district of Oude during the current fusly year, which he should accordingly recommend to his Excellency.

4. Within a fortnight from the date of my conversation with Dya-Krishen, I had the mortification of perceiving a manifest change in the disposition and conduct of the Vizier, whose jealousy of his minister, Dya-Krishen, would seem to have been excited by the sinister practices and false reports of Hukeem Mehdee, Aumil of Khyrabad, a person whose disaffection to the British Government, and the general vices of his character, have frequently fallen under my observation, and have been brought to the notice of the Government by my predecessor, as well as by myself. This person had been apparently removed from the Vizier's confidence and favour, on two or three recent occasions, for a considerable period of time, during all which his Excellency seemed particularly attentive to my advice, and I have frequently had occasion to remark that the restoration of Hukeem Mehdee to favour, has been the forerunner of untoward proceedings on the part of his Excellency, with regard to every question in discussion between his Excellency and me. On the present occasion, it is obvious to my judgment that his Excellency's inclination to depart from the promise conveyed in his letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, Lord Minto, as well as from his assurances to me, regarding the progress of the measures of reform, the provision assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan, and the restoration of the rights of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, has been induced in a principal degree by the pernicious counsels of Hukeem Mehdee, and by the false reports of intriguing agents employed by this person at the Presidency, as well as in the city of Lucknow.

5. About

5. About the beginning of this month it was reported to me that a scheme had been suggested to the Vizier for defeating the objects of reform, by the deputation of a few Ameens to the most disorderly district of his dominions, under circumstances which were calculated to preclude even the partial success of their deputation, and with secret instructions to represent the obstacles that opposed their proceedings immediately on their arrival in the district. The particulars of this scheme and its objects were explained to me by an indirect communication on the part of Raee Dya-Krisben, and the truth of the reports which had reached me was confirmed by a manifest change in the disposition and conduct of the Vizier, who had ceased, without any pretext, to pay his usual visits at the Residency or to communicate with me in a friendly manner, as formerly, on the subject of reform or on any other. The discussion, in particular, regarding the property and will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, which had hitherto proceeded in a friendly and conciliatory manner, notwithstanding our difference of opinion, was no longer attended to with patience on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, who seemed disposed to take advantage of my known inability to gratify him by the unconditional surrender of that property, as a pretext for rejecting my advice on every other question that occurred, be the nature of it ever so trifling.

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6. Perceiving this unhappy alteration in the temper and disposition of the Vizier, and particularly apprehensive of its effects on the progress of the reform in his administration, I deemed it to be my indispensable duty to guard against the commencement of the reform, under circumstances that were calculated to frustrate the salutary objects in view, or to afford to his Excellency a pretext for ascribing the failure of those objects to any defect in the system proposed; and accordingly, on the 11th instant, I addressed a letter on this subject to the Vizier, a copy of which is enclosed for his Lordship in Council's perusal, and will, I trust, receive his approbation. A short reply to this letter, a translation of which is enclosed, was received on the same day; since which I have had no communication with his Excellency on the subject: but I have heard, through another channel, that the few miserable Ameens who were actually appointed by his Excellency, and had received an advance of salary at the rate of fifty rupees per mensem, with instructions to proceed to Purtaubgurh, have been recently dismissed from their employment, and required, under pain of imprisonment, to refund the amount which they received, and which many of them had expended for their subsistence. This circumstance, of itself, seems decisive of the fact of their total incapacity for the trust which was nominally reposed in them, and of the view of his Excellency the Vizier in selecting such persons for employment in a turbulent district, and peculiarly difficult to settle, because subjected to extraordinary oppression for a great number of years.

7. I cannot with certainty predict the nature of the excuse which will be offered by his Excellency the Vizier for this departure from his solemn engagement with a reference to the question of reform. That his Excellency is at a loss to assign any plausible pretext for his conduct, may be inferred from his delay to reply to my letter, and from his anxiety to avoid a conference with me since the date of his receiving that letter, which he has manifested by complaints of indisposition on every subsequent occasion of our meeting. His reply, however, cannot be withheld much longer, and it shall be transmitted to you as soon as I receive it, with such remarks as the purport of it may suggest.

8. It must be obvious to his Lordship in Council, that the partial commencement of the reform under such circumstances as those that have been stated, and in the disposition of mind and with the views, which I have ascribed to his Excellency the Vizier on grounds that appear to be unquestionable, could have no other possible effect than that of frustrating the objects proposed, and affording a pretext to his Excellency for imputing the failure of those objects to a cause the most remote from the true one. This effect has been necessarily precluded by the tenor of my letter to the Vizier, while his Excellency's responsibility for the performance of his solemn engagement to our Government remains unaffected, as before, in the terms of his letter to

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to Lord Minto of the 12th of October last, namely, "to regulate the assessment of his dominions by the real assets of the country; and to fix that assessment for a term of years, to be afterwards increased in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the districts;" and further, "to fix the amount of revenue to be exacted from the landholders by written engagements under the guarantee of the government, so that no more may be demanded than what is specified in those engagements, and that the landholders and others may be relieved from oppressive or arbitrary exaction."

9. The performance of this solemn engagement, which was voluntarily contracted by the Vizier, is all that our government can require, and we are obviously entitled to demand it. If it be performed in a satisfactory manner, and in the spirit of existing treaties, with our uniform concurrence and advice, we are bound and disposed to support the whole course of his Excellency's measures, and thus to ensure their success, to the improvement of his revenue and resources; but if the measures adopted by his Excellency, with even the ostensible view of fulfilling his engagements to our Government, be such as we are bound to disapprove, or be adopted without our knowledge and concurrence, the responsibility for the success of those measures, and for the increase or diminution of the public revenue of the country, must rest with his Excellency alone, and he can never hereafter ascribe the failure of any of his measures to a defect in the general system recommended by our Government to his adoption, nor to the want of our support to those measures which may be executed without our knowledge or advice.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
22d December 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Suggestions regarding the Reform, submitted to his Excellency the Vizier on the 10th of November 1813.

The present season of the year is, of all others, the best adapted to the commencement of the salutary reforms in the administration of your Excellency's revenue. The seed-time of the Rubbee crop being over, the landholders and cultivators of the ground can have no possible pretext for refusing or delaying to attend the Tehsildars for the purpose of settling the revenue, and the facility of military operations at so favourable a season of the year must deter the disaffected and refractory from refusing to attend the Tehsildars, or must readily tend to their suppression. Further, the easy and accurate ascertainment of assets, or of the probable produce of the lands, by ocular inspection of the cultivated fields, is another manifest advantage at the present season of the year, unattainable at any other season. During the hot weather, the difficulty of moving the troops to keep in awe the disaffected and refractory, who might refuse to attend the Tehsildars; during the rains, the necessary occupation of the landholders and cultivators in the progress of husbandry; and, during both those seasons in common a number of other disadvantages oppose the settlement of the revenue, to which at this season no obstacle occurs. I therefore earnestly recommend, that the proclamations and instructions to Aumils and Ameens, in the terms which were suggested to your Excellency at our conference of Saturday last, be prepared and dispatched to all the districts with the least practicable delay, and that the several public officers in the districts be directed to publish the proclamations, and commence the preparatory measures for the triennial settlements of the revenue immediately on the receipt of those orders. If copies of your Excellency's proclamations were also to be furnished to me, to be dispatched to the commanding-officers of stations for the purpose of more general information, I have no doubt of the advantage of this measure.

The Aumils already in authority, whom your Excellency may be disposed to continue under the new system in consequence of their good character and conduct, as also the new officers who may now be employed, should be instructed,

instructed, after publishing your Excellency's proclamations throughout all the villages of their districts, to assemble the different Seghadars, and prepare, in concert with them, an accurate statement of the collections, or juma-wāsil baukee account, for the last three years if it be possible, or for as many years as may be readily procured, with a *dowl* (scheme) of a moderate assessment for the present year, to be formed by comparative estimates of the probable produce of this with the actual collections of former years, and adjusted with the strictest impartiality. Those schemes, with their necessary accompaniments, to be forwarded to the Presence without delay, and to be carefully examined by your Excellency, or by some of your ablest officers of revenue and most confidential servants; and if the schemes be approved by your Excellency, and no complaints against them be received from the districts, let them be sent back to the Aumils and Ameens, with instructions to take *cabooleats* (agreements) from the several landholders and Malgoozars for the amount of their respective assessments for a term of three years, under their seals and the signature of the Seghadars, and send those agreements to the Presence: after which the *puttahs* (engagements) of the Government to the landholders for a term of three years should be forwarded from the Presence to the Aumils and Ameens, to be by them delivered to the landholders, whose receipts for their *puttahs* should be obtained, to shew that the Aumils have delivered them.

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Lucknow.

As the greatest part of your Excellency's dominions is already divided into large districts of ten, twenty, and thirty lacs of rupees of revenue each, under the charge of considerable farmers or Ameens, some of whom must be worthy of your Excellency's confidence and of employment under the new system, it seems advisable that, in such cases, the triennial settlement of those districts on the new plan be committed to the present incumbents, in the character of collectors or Zillahdars, they nominating and instructing their subordinate Tehsildars or Ameens to collect the revenue papers and transmit schemes of the settlement, as above explained, in the first instance to the collectors or Zillahdars, who should submit them with their remarks to the Presence, whence, after final investigation and approval, the orders should be issued for concluding the settlement, by receiving the *cabooleats* or agreements of the landholders and delivering the *puttahs* in exchange.

But all engagements with the landholders should be in the name and bear the seal of the Government, whatever degree of authority may be otherwise vested in the Zillahdars.

When the settlements are finally adjusted, security for the largest instalment of the revenue of each district or Zillah should be required from the officer in charge: and this may be executed in either of two ways, namely, first, the collector or Zillahdar of a large division of territory may have the power of nominating his own subordinate Tehsildars, giving security in his own person for the largest instalment of the whole of the revenue of his district, and receiving for himself the established per-centage of the whole (which I recommend for the present to be ten per cent. of the clear revenue), out of which his subordinate Tehsildars, and all their expenses, as well as his own, are to be paid; or, secondly, each subordinate Tehsildar to receive the per-centage of his own particular district and furnish the security required, the Zillahdar or collector of each division having an adequate salary and establishment for the general superintendence, without any per-centage on the revenue of the whole: and this latter arrangement I consider to be preferable to the former, as well as more consistent with the terms of the Governor-General's letter to your Excellency, which is the basis of the system proposed.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIF,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Jan. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 11th December 1813.)

A considerable time has elapsed since your Excellency has been pleased to consult or communicate with me regarding the appointment or deputation of Ameens, and reports conveyed to me through various channels have ascribed to your Excellency a design, which is calculated to excite my apprehension of the failure of those salutary measures that were determined on by our mutual consent. I understand that your Excellency has recently nominated Ameens, with salaries of fifty rupees per mensem, to divisions of the district of Purtaubgurh, yielding a revenue each of a lac of rupees, and that those Ameens are about to depart, with instructions of the nature of which I am uninformed.

Although I can scarcely believe that, after the recent most happy adjustment of every depending question between your Excellency and the Company's Government, a measure of the nature described, or indeed any measure whatever having reference to the reform of your administration, should be adopted without my knowledge and advice, yet a report of this nature having reached me, it is a duty of friendship, on my part, to submit to your Excellency without reserve the sentiments with which I have received it.

It must be obvious to your Excellency's judgment, that persons who are worthy of confidence, and capable of performing the duties which were meant to be committed to the Ameens, could never undertake to perform them for salaries so inadequate to the trust; and that the employment of such persons as those who are reported to me to have been entertained, unless they be placed under the superintendence and control of a person of rank and respectability with an adequate salary, in the character of collector or Zillahdar, can be productive of no benefit whatever, but on the contrary must bring your Excellency's Government into disrepute, at the very commencement of the new system of administration, which your Excellency has been pleased to adopt in compliance with the counsels of our Government.

I formerly suggested to your Excellency, and I now repeat my suggestion, that the officers to be selected for the duty of investigating the state of the country with a view to the triennial settlement, should be persons of great respectability, and should have salaries at the least of two hundred rupees per mensem, and that, with this view, the districts or divisions to be committed to their charge might with propriety be extended to a territory yielding from two to three lacs of rupees; and further, that the general superintendence and control of the conduct of every ten of those Ameens should be vested in an officer of high rank, and of the greatest respectability and integrity, with an adequate salary and establishment, in the character of collector or Zillahdar.

Under such an arrangement as that described, there can be no doubt of your Excellency's finding trust-worthy and respectable persons to undertake the duties of Ameens, and to perform them with ability, integrity, and zeal, giving ample security for their good conduct and for the largest instalment of the revenue, in the ultimate situation of Tehsildars, which your Excellency will be disposed to entrust to them when the settlement of their districts shall be concluded.

Your Excellency cannot but be aware, that the concession which I recently made to you with regard to the revenue papers, and my promise of the ratification of that concession by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, proceeded on the natural expectation, and indeed on the obvious condition, that every measure of your Excellency's Government having reference to the new system of administration of the revenue should be executed with my concurrence and advice, and that, in fact, the support of those measures, in as far as the power of the British Government is concerned, must depend on my previous knowledge of their justice and expedience, since without this particular information my assistance can never be afforded, and the success or failure of your Excellency's measures undertaken without my advice must depend on your Excellency alone.

It therefore seems to me to be advisable, and I recommend to your Excellency's most serious consideration, with a view not only to the support and success

success of your measures, but also to the ease and tranquillity of your mind, that the measures which may now be in agitation, and all others having reference to the reform, be communicated without reserve to your Excellency's well-wisher in the first instance, either personally or in writing, or through the medium of your Excellency's confidential servant, who was recently ordered to attend me for this purpose, and through whom my suggestions were conveyed.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Jan. 1814.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 11th December 1813.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter of this date, informing me that you had heard of the nomination of Ameens, and repeating your suggestion that the Ameens should have an allowance of two hundred or two hundred and fifty rupees per mensem, and that a Zillahdar of respectability and integrity, with a high salary, should be appointed over every ten of the Ameens. The truth of the matter is, that eight Ameens, with instructions drawn up in the terms which you formerly advised, had obtained their leave and were about to depart : but now that you have written to me so, I have recalled those Ameens, and shall reply to your letter hereafter.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

Ordered, That a letter be prepared in the office of the Persian Secretary, addressed to the Nawaub Vizier, in conformity to the terms of the following draft, and be forwarded to the Resident at Lucknow, for the purpose of being presented to his Excellency.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 7th of January 1814.)

Letter from
Governor-General.

Major Baillie has communicated to me his correspondence with your Excellency, relative to the payment and distribution of the pension which, at the repeated representation of the British Government, your Excellency was pleased to assign to Hoosein Alee Khan, and which was intended for the support of himself and of his own immediate family. That family, as your Excellency knows, had been reduced to distress, not solely by the resumption of the pension originally granted for the maintenance of the family of Hyder Beg Khan, but in a greater degree by the unjust and cruel conduct of his eldest son, Akbur Alee Khan.

When the strong claim which the situation of Hoosein Alee Khan had upon your bounty was urged to your Excellency, the British Government could have no interest in the step, but that which it ever must take in all that involves your Excellency's known justice and honour.

I may say that the representation of the British Government to your Excellency was not spontaneous. It was invited by a reference which your Excellency had made to the Governor-General on the subject : a reference which indicated that your Excellency contemplated the matter correspondently to our view of it. On this overture the British Government could not but earnestly encourage your Excellency's disposition.

It felt how much the general opinion of your Excellency's and of the Honourable Company's subjects would necessarily be swayed by your procedure towards that family, and the British Government thence thought itself entitled to persevere strenuously in pressing the adoption of a measure so highly calculated to advance a reputation which we wish never to separate from our own.

Your Excellency having referred to the late Governor-General's letter of the 2d of July, as countenancing a pretension on the part of the family of Akbur Alee Khan to share in the pension, it is incumbent on me, in the name of the Government

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7 Jan. 1814.

Letter from
Governor-General.

Government which I represent, to assure your Excellency, that the letter was never meant to bear such a construction. Major Baillie, in his letters of the 11th and 16th of December, has demonstrated that the terms of Lord Minto's letter cannot, by any just interpretation, be applied to the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan. They were in comparative affluence, and did not need the interposition, if Lord Minto could have used any for the family of a man whom his Lordship reprobates so decisively as he does Akbur Alee Khan in that very letter. But it would, moreover, in our contemplation, have tainted all the grace and elevated humanity of your Excellency's munificence to Hoosein Alee Khan, had you at the same moment extended a similar beneficence to the oppressor and persecutor of him and his offspring; therefore it never could have entered into the thoughts of Lord Minto and the Council, to solicit what would tarnish the lustre of an act advised by them wholly out of regard to your Excellency's fame.

I must indulge an earnest hope, that after this explanation your Excellency will deem it consonant to your exalted character, to confirm and issue the provision for the family of Hoosein Alee Khan in the manner requested by Major Baillie, without making any allotment out of it for the family of Akbur Alee Khan.

Your Excellency's answer to a letter of my predecessor's, dated 2d July 1813, expresses a distinct acquiescence, on the part of your Excellency, in the plan of reform recommended in the system of your Government, and conveyed the assurance that it should be immediately undertaken. Major Baillie has since informed this Government that your Excellency appears to have abandoned that salutary intention, and that you have shewn a marked disinclination to listen to any of his suggestions referring to that momentous concern.

It is my anxious desire, and it is equally the solicitude of those with whom I have the satisfaction to be associated, that every testimony of attention, and every procedure which can uphold your dignity, should be manifested by the British Government. Your Excellency's interests, however, and ours are so inseparably interwoven, that it would be criminal in us, did we not offer to you our best advice in any conjuncture which we may think pregnant with evil for you. It is on this ground that we have urged your Excellency to adopt arrangements of reform in your dominions (a right of interference secured to us by treaty), as the only mode of avoiding a convulsion not to be quelled but by applications of our force that would be discreditable for us, and which we consequently could not make for your support.

The manner in which our troops have often been called upon to act, in order to dissipate commotions occasioned by the misrule and oppressive conduct of those entrusted with the details of your Excellency's affairs, has extorted frequent remonstrance from this Government. We feel it dishonourable for the British arms to be employed in supporting injustice, and we must guard against such disgrace.

A sense of mutual interest has forced the British Government to press this point strongly. There will not be wanting men around you, whose advantages would suffer from such a reform. It is natural that they should attempt to discipline your Excellency to the measure, and to the British Government for urging it. They would have no chance of succeeding, were it not that your Excellency's mind might imagine the effect of disregard of our counsels would be merely temporary coldness. Such a coldness could not exist, without soon degenerating, first into estrangement, and then into jealousies and misconstructions of the most dangerous description. The ultimate result would be matter of the deepest grief to us: to your Excellency it would be ruin. That a contingency so dreadful may be precluded, let me entreat your Excellency to co-operate with me in manly confidence, to maintain the united interest of the two Governments firm and unshaken.

It shall be my study to forbear, as far as my duty will permit, any minor interventions which may be unpleasant to your Excellency, provided I find,
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on the other hand, that your Excellency enters in earnest on these arrangements, and cordially maintains that conduct whence we may have the gratification to estimate you as an efficient and zealous ally of the Honourable Company. The object is so serious, that I assure myself your Excellency cannot misinterpret the frankness with which I have exposed our relative situations for your reflection: on the contrary, the unreserved manner in which I speak ought to satisfy you, that no doubtful sentiment remains concealed, and your Excellency should thence feel your security in a perfect reliance on this Government.

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7 Jan. 1814.

Letter from
Governor-General.

Major Baillie, who possesses my full confidence, is instructed by me to make this principle the guide of the communications which he has the honour of holding with your Excellency, and I ardently hope that your Excellency will prove your correspondence to my dispositions, by the liberal and sincere trust which you will repose in that gentleman.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing draft be transmitted to the Resident at Lucknow, together with the following letter.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo, enclosing a translation of your correspondence with the Vizier on the subject of the payment and distribution of the pension assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan.

2. It is satisfactory to the Governor-General in Council to state his entire concurrence in the justice and propriety of the distribution of the pension proposed by you, which is in strict conformity to the object of the British Government in urging the grant, namely, the support of Hoosein Alee Khan, who has been deprived of his just rights and of the means of comfortable subsistence, by the injustice of his elder brother, countenanced and encouraged by the Vizier, combined with the means of enabling him to relieve the indigent branches of the family of Hyder Beg Khan, reduced to absolute distress by the resumption of the pension originally assigned for their support.

3. The Vizier cannot, at any period of the negotiation, have misunderstood the views and intentions of the British Government, as is evident from the whole tenor of the correspondence and verbal discussions which have passed on the subject, and his Excellency's endeavours to divert from its proper objects a portion of the allowance, which he at last yielded to the urgent representations of the British Government in behalf of this unfortunate family, and the suspension of the payment of the pension for two months, with the view of applying a portion of it to the maintenance of the family of Akbur Alee Khan, are matters of equal surprise and concern to the Governor-General in Council.

4. It has appeared to his Excellency the Governor-General in Council proper, on this occasion, to point out, in a direct address to his Excellency the Vizier, the erroneous interpretation which his Excellency has given to that passage of Lord Minto's letter of the 2d of July which relates to the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, and to confirm and enforce the arguments employed by you in your letters to his Excellency on this subject. The English draft of a letter which will be addressed by the Governor-General to the Vizier is accordingly enclosed, and you will receive the Persian letter from the proper department as soon as it can be prepared. From that draft you will distinctly learn the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, not only on the subject of the above-mentioned pension, but on the more important points to which your letter alluded. The sentiments expressed by his Lordship to the Vizier afford so marked a line for your guidance in further negotiation, that it is unnecessary for me to add any detailed observations on your statement.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Jan. 1814.

Letter from
Secretary
to Government.

5. I am directed to take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your despatches of the 13th and 22d ultimo, on the subject of the Vizier's recent conduct relative to the important question of reform. His Lordship in Council trusts that the Governor-General's letter, of which a copy is inclosed, aided by your representations in the spirit of its contents, will remove the effect of those unhappy counsels which have led the Vizier to depart from his solemn promise on that subject.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
7th January 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Jan. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 21st January 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 22d ultimo, I transmit to you, for the notice of the Government, the inclosed copy and translation of a letter received from the Vizier, in answer to my friendly remonstrance on the nature of his Excellency's proceedings, with the ostensible view of commencing a reform in the administration of his revenue. A copy, with a Persian translation of my reply to his Excellency's letter, is also transmitted by this despatch, and appears to supersede the necessity of my offering any additional remarks on the character of his Excellency's proceedings, or of the arguments by which they are supported. With a reference to the observations which I have submitted to his Excellency respecting the conduct of his Aumil of Purtaubgurh, and the actual condition of that district, I subjoin to the documents above noticed some extracts from letters from Colonel Frith, commanding our troops in Purtaubgurh.

2. By information which I have recently obtained, it is fully established in my mind, not only that the dismissal of the Ameens, whom the Vizier professes to have recalled in consequence of my letter regarding them, had never actually taken place, but that the instructions and proclamations to which his Excellency has alluded in his letter had never been delivered to the Ameens, nor had the districts to which they were to proceed been specified to any one of them. Two of those persons have declared to two of my confidential servants, that the purport of the instructions which they saw in the hands of his Excellency's Moonshees was totally different from that which I had suggested to his Excellency.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
6th January 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 30th December 1813.)

On the 17th of Zeehijj (11th December), in answer to your letter of that date, it was written that a detailed reply should be given thereafter. The truth is this :— In your letter above stated, you have written that "I had not made any communication to you regarding the appointment or deputation of Ameens, and that "reports had reached you," &c. You will recollect that before this, on an occasion of our meeting, you asked what was done respecting the Ameens, and I answered that they had been selected and should be despatched ; and Racee Dia-Krishen also informed you, that proclamations and instructions, corresponding with the draft which had been settled between us, were prepared, and that Ameens were about to be despatched. With regard, again, to your suggestion respecting Zillahs and Zillahdars, the case is this :—That in the paper of suggestions which you sent to me, it is no where written that Zillahdars should first be appointed, and therefore I proposed to depute Ameens in the first place to Purtaubgurh, where Koodrut Oolla Khan is already in the station of Zillahdar.

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In answer to your remark, that after the recent happy adjustment of every depending question you could scarcely believe that any measure of this sort should be adopted without your knowledge and advice, the case is this:—that although the present was not the time for deputing Ameens, I resolved to appoint them, and gave them their dismissal, with instructions and proclamations, merely at your request; and as to informing you or asking you what Ameen should be deputed, or who should not be deputed, or any other matter of detail, I had long ago expressly refused to make any such communications. The receipt of your letter, to which this is a reply, has been the cause of suspending the deputation of Ameens. Consider how much this has been a cause of slight among the people, what a bad appearance it has, and how much it has grieved my mind.

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21 Jan. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

You have written that you formerly suggested that the districts committed to the charge of the Ameens should be extended to a territory yielding from two to three lacs of rupees. This suggestion I do not recollect, and it is not contained in the plan which you sent to me. I inquired for persons who had been employed in the Company's territories and were acquainted with the system that is prevalent there, and the object of limiting their districts to a lac of rupees was merely that of hastening and facilitating their preparation and transmission of the papers, while their allowance was established at the rate which you yourself originally proposed, namely, a hundred rupees for every lac.

With a reference to your suggestion, that a person of high rank, respectability, and integrity, with an adequate salary, should be appointed to superintend the Ameens;—as the settlement of the country and appointment of Zillahdars was dependent on the proceedings of the Ameens, and the investigation of the papers which they might furnish to exhibit the state of the districts, and the conduct of the present Zillahdars (after which in the case of established misconduct another Zillahdar might be appointed in the room of the officer who misbehaved), therefore the selection of new Zillahdars for the present was unnecessary.

In answer to your remark, that "the concession regarding revenue papers" proceeded on the natural expectation that every measure having reference to "the system of reform should be executed with your concurrence and advice," &c. The case is this:—That in the manner which you stated and advised, the measures of reform were commenced, and instructions and proclamations in the terms which you had suggested were written, and given to the Ameens; consequently, the only measure on which it was necessary to consult you was not adopted without your advice, and therefore your exoneration from responsibility, for any failure which might have occurred, could not be admitted.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 4th January 1814.)

I have had the honour of receiving two letters from your Excellency, dated the 6th of Mohurru (30th ultimo), in reply to my respectful addresses of the 17th and 22d of Zeehijj (11th and 16th ultimo), on the important subject of reform, and on the question of the distribution of the pension assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan. Copies and translations of both your Excellency's letters having been submitted to the notice of the Government, whose deliberate and impartial consideration the arguments contained in them will receive, I might, perhaps, with propriety have refrained from submitting any remarks to your Excellency on the tenor of either of those letters, until the judgment of the Government should be known; and, with a reference to one of the questions, namely, the distribution of the pension of Hoosein Alee Khan, I have determined, from respect for your Excellency, to await in silence the result of the reference which I had previously made to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

With regard, however, to the more important subject of reform, it appears to be proper to recall to your Excellency's recollection a few of the circumstances which

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

which occurred before your Excellency's seeming resolution to depute Ameens to Purtaubgurh, in a manner, and with instructions and commands that, in as far as they were imparted to me, could not receive my approbation.—And, first, I submit to your Excellency, with particular reference to your statement of our conversation regarding Ameens, that the object of my inquiry on that occasion could not possibly have been limited to the single district of Purtaubgurh, but must have comprized every Zillah and Purgunnah in the whole of your Excellency's dominions, since your Excellency must perfectly recollect that a partial introduction of the new system of assessment and collection of the revenue was a measure against which I had uniformly remonstrated, with an eagerness proportioned to the interest which I feel in the successful progress of the reform and of your Excellency's general administration. Indeed, my written and personal suggestions to your Excellency, on every former as well as recent occasion, demonstrate that the universal introduction of the system, at the same instant of time, by proclamations to be issued by your Excellency and circulated throughout your dominions, through the medium of your Excellency's Aumils and of the commanding officers of our troops, was considered by me to be indispensable to the successful progress of the reform. Nay, your Excellency on more than one occasion, and particularly that of our meeting at Baroun, had assured me that copies of the proclamation should be furnished for circulation by the commanding officers of our troops, under my immediate authority, as soon as they were prepared for distribution among the several Aumils and Ameens; and, consequently, I could never have calculated on the commencement of any measures of reform, or on the deputation of a single Ameen by your Excellency, till I should be furnished with copies of the proclamation, as well as particularly apprized of the instructions which were meant to be given to the Ameens. Dia-Krishen was deputed by your Excellency, in the terms of your message to me, for the purpose of receiving detailed explanations regarding measures which I had previously recommended to your Excellency, and which you had generally promised to adopt. He informed me, it is true, that proclamations and instructions were preparing, and that he had been ordered to select Ameens, with the view of commencing the reform in every district of your Excellency's territory; of the propriety and necessity of which, and of all the measures that I proposed to him, he appeared to be perfectly satisfied, and promised to satisfy your Excellency's mind; but his conversation could never have led me to suppose that the measure, which your Excellency would now seem to have meditated with regard to the district of Purtaubgurh, was at that time in your Excellency's contemplation, nor that any measures of reform could have been executed or commenced by your Excellency without my previous concurrence and advice.—Secondly, I submit to your Excellency, with a reference to your remark respecting Zillahs and Zillahdars, that the division and subdivision of your dominions into Zillahs and smaller districts, with a view to the more efficient administration of the revenues, was the first measure recommended by me to your Excellency, during our discussions of two years ago; and, consequently, that no written nor verbal proposal of mine, having a reference to the new system of assessment, could ever be considered as unconnected with the necessary appointment of Zillahdars. Nay, your Excellency would seem to have been aware of the truth of this observation, and to have anticipated it in a manner the most singular, by the remark (inconsistent with the preceding one) of Koodrut Oolla Khan, the Aumil of Purtaubgurh, being employed as a Zillahdar in that district. Yet when I beg your Excellency to recollect the purport of our repeated conversations on the character and conduct of this Aumil, the letters of a British officer so respectable and intelligent as Colonel Frith, demonstrative of Koodrut Oolla Khan's extraordinary misconduct and oppression, and your Excellency's avowed determination, in concert with me, to remove him, it must be unnecessary to express my surprize at the mention of such an officer as this in the important character of a Zillahdar, to superintend and control the Ameens to be deputed to the scene of his oppression.

That your Excellency, after avowing this fact, should have been pleased to consider and describe the intended deputation of Ameens to the district of Purtaubgurh as a measure adopted with my advice, is a circumstance still more surprising; and the ultimate suspension of that measure, if indeed as
your

your Excellency observes you had determined to carry it into effect, and were prevented by the receipt of my letter, instead of causing grief to your Excellency's mind, should form, in my opinion, a source of consolation ; since the measure itself must inevitably have brought your Excellency's Government into disrepute, and must have strengthened the hand of oppression, in the person of Koodrut Oolla Khan, over the unhappy population of Purtaubgurh, who have long been the victims of his extortion.

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21 Jan. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

With a reference to your Excellency's remarks, that I had never recommended the extension of the districts to be committed to Ameens to a territory yielding two or three lacs of rupees, and that the salary fixed for those Ameens was at the rate which I had previously suggested, I admit that the expression in my letters respecting the division and subdivision of the country contains the minimum and maximum of the districts at one lac and three lacs of rupees ; but the medium of these two extremes, I submit, might have naturally occurred to your Excellency as the point to which I referred : and, at all events, the superintendence and control of an able and respectable officer in the charge of a grand division or Zillah, would have provided against any defects in the detail of subordinate arrangements.

With regard to all the remaining points of your Excellency's letter, and to the general subject of this address, I submit, as a concluding and conclusive remark, to which in the genuine spirit of friendship and conciliation I entreat your most serious attention, that the result of our protracted discussions on the important question of reform, and the express and explicit tenor of your Excellency's letter to Lord Minto, have fixed on your Excellency a solemn and unequivocal obligation to operate an universal, and by no means a partial change, in the assessment and collection of your revenues: that is to say, and to use your Excellency's words, have established a promise to regulate "the future assessment of your dominions by the real assets of the country, and to fix that assessment for a term of years to be afterwards increased in proportion to the augmentation of resources in the districts, and further to fix the amount of revenue to be exacted from the landholders, by written engagements under the guarantee of the Government, so that no more may be demanded from the landholders than what is specified in their written engagements," &c. This change in the administration of the revenues, which your Excellency has admitted to be indispensable, and which our government is entitled to demand, may be ostensibly attempted by your Excellency in either of two ways : the one strictly conformable to the spirit of existing treaties, and with the happy disposition which your Excellency evinced, at the date of your letter to the Governor-General, in uniform concert and concurrence with your Excellency's cordial well-wisher, the British Resident at your Court, whose constant and zealous support must in this case ensure the success of the whole of your Excellency's measures, the security and ultimate increase of the revenue and resources of your country, and the ease and happiness of your mind. The other it is unnecessary to describe, as being that which is unhappily evinced by your Excellency's recent proceedings : but its consequences, however obvious in themselves, I shall, from motives of friendship, detail to you ; the failure of your Excellency's measures, if such as have been recently meditated, from their own radical defects, as well as from the want of that support which our Government must ever withhold from such measures as its judgment disapproves ; the probable loss and the decrease of your Excellency's revenue and resources ; and the ultimate regret, as well as constant anxiety of your mind, from the conviction of your resistance to councils so pure and disinterested as those of the Honourable Company's Government. From this simple statement of facts, the reality or imaginary nature of the responsibility, to which your Excellency has alluded at the close of your letter to my address, must be apparent to your Excellency's mind.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Jan. 1814.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Though unwilling to trouble you with private letters, I think it is proper on the present occasion, to give you some information regarding the state of this country, the management of which, I am very sorry to say, is no way improved since the time of Asuf-ood-Dowla. Indeed the inhabitants are rather more oppressed now ; for formerly the Aumils were infinitely more liberal than they are at present, and occasionally allowed deductions, which is never done at present, nor are they under any kind of fear or restraint.

I enclose the report made by the people I sent into the Gurh Amet, hy district with the letters for Sheo Golam Sing and Seetulla Bux, from which you will perceive that many villages have been deserted, that forts are under repair, in short, that all the vices of the old system continue in full vigour, and that the Nawaub's Officers and Government are in the highest degree unpopular. But how can it be otherwise in a country where there are no fixed laws, no police, nor no court of civil or criminal justice, to which the injured can appeal for relief? In fact, the whole of the inhabitants of this country are in the highest degree discontented with the Nawaub, with all his public officers, and with his system of government. They see in all the neighbouring countries under the Company's Government the property of every individual protected, and that from the highest to the lowest every man enjoys in peace and security the fruits of his industry ; but they cannot conceive or comprehend why the English forcibly maintain a Government which acts upon principles diametrically opposite to our own system. The Nawaub's Government would not last a month, no not a week, if we were to withdraw our support : all the crimes of oppression and injustice committed under his Government, therefore, rest at our door. When I was first stationed in this part of the country, in the year 1800, I recollect the Zemindars boasting that Seetul Persaud was the first Aumil who escaped justice for many years and returned alive to Lucknow ; and that he would not have got off but for the protection of our troops. Thus are we placed, to countenance and support the perpetration of crimes on one hand, and to prevent their punishment on the other.

I hope this system will not last much longer.

I am, &c.

Purtaubgurh,
19th October 1813.

(Signed) R. FRITH.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

At the request of Hurdial Sing, the vakeel of Dewan Zubber Sing, I have the honour to enclose for your information his arzee, detailing the particulars of a very unfortunate affray which took place two days ago at Zubber Sing's residence, about four coss from hence.

Gumber Sing, who is mentioned in the arzee, is a substantial Zemindar in the neighbourhood, and is security for the payment of Zubber Sing's revenue.

Hurdial Sing was formerly a Subadar in the Company's service, and is a respectable well-behaved man. He was with Koodrut Oolla Khan, on the part of Zubber Sing, at the time the affray happened.

In a country where there is no fixed system of Government, no courts of justice, civil or criminal, to which the injured can resort for relief, where there is no police to take cognizance of crimes, and where the most despotic authority is confided to persons of low rank, without education, moral instruction, talents, or any qualities to fit them for their situation, it is rather surprising that such affairs do not more frequently occur, than that they occur only occasionally. The fact is, that the respect and awe which the inhabitants have for the Company's troops is a considerable check on the commission of crimes, and the only one in this country. The declining state of all the districts round is such as might be expected

expected under such circumstances ; the hopes of the people are fixed on the British Government relieving them ere long from their present misery.

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Consultations,
21 Jan. 1814.

I have, &c.

Purtaubgurh,
25th November 1813.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 6th instant with the translation of your further correspondence with his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of the reform.

2. The recent despatch of the instructions of Government of the 7th instant, accompanied by the draft of a letter addressed by the Governor-General to his Excellency, in which he is called on to fulfil his promise to the British Government relative to the reform, renders unnecessary at the present moment any further instructions on that subject. His Lordship in Council trusts that the early receipt of the letter from the Persian Department will enable you to renew the negotiation with advantage and ultimate success.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
21st January 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 4th February 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Feb. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 17th instant to your address, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of the Government, a copy and translation of a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, in reply to my letter to his Excellency under date the 16th instant, on the question of the distribution of the pension assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan.

2. The purport of his Excellency's letter seems to me to be totally destitute of any solid argument on the question of the pretended right of the family of Akbur Alee Khan to a share of the provision assigned to the needy dependants of his father ; and the style of his Excellency's letter is, in my judgment, both offensive and indecorous, more particularly in its commencement, where his Excellency has been pleased to ascribe to me a disposition to contend with him idly, on a question on which it must be obvious to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council that my respectful suggestions to the Vizier have been wilfully and unnecessarily opposed, and my appeal to his justice and liberality has been treated with marked disregard. It is, however, my intention to refrain from making any reply to the letter, and to await the result of my reference for the final instructions of the Government regarding the distribution of the pension.

3. I solicit his Lordship in Council's particular attention to the concluding paragraph of his Excellency the Vizier's letter, in which his Excellency has declared his resolution to render nugatory the provision for Hoosein Alee Khan, by demanding repayment of the sums which were formerly granted, at my request, to protect this unfortunate person from absolute beggary or want. Among the sums which are referred to by his Excellency, I have every reason to believe that a loan to Hoosein Alee Khan by the late Almass Alee Khan of the sum of forty-eight thousand rupees, which was afterwards declared to be a gift, is intended to form a primary demand ; and if this demand be admitted, the amount of it, principal and interest, with the sums advanced by his Excellency, must engross the whole of the pension for a period of several years, to the

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4 Feb. 1814.

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from Resident at
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the utter ruin of Hoosein Alee Khan, who must thus be precluded from profiting by the humane and generous exertions of the British Government in his behalf. I therefore submit for consideration, that the proof of the intended cancellation of Hoosein Alee Khan's bond by Almass, which the former is prepared to adduce, if the bond be still in existence, with such other arguments as the nature of the case may suggest, be pleaded to his Excellency the Vizier, in bar of his eventual claim against Hoosein Alee Khan for the money which was lent to him by Almass; and further, in the case of his Excellency's persisting in this most illiberal demand, that the gradual liquidation of the amount be arranged in such a manner with the Vizier, under the authority of his Lordship in Council, as to preclude the utter ruin of the debtor, by securing a provision for him in the mean time. A retrospective operation of the compromise which was recently effected with the Vizier might with perfect justice be demanded, for the purpose of extinguishing those claims which his Excellency has thought proper to prefer on this occasion, with a view to the ruin of Hoosein Alee Khan, for no other reason, in my opinion, than the countenance afforded to this person by the Honourable Company's Government.

4. It is a matter of the most serious public concern, that the unhappy disposition of a prince with whom the British Government is so closely allied as with his Excellency the Vizier, and who is obviously indebted to that Government for a condition of opulence, splendour, and security, unknown by any sovereign of Hindoostan since the decline of the Mohummudan empire, should thus prove the unavoidable source of endless and vexatious disputes on a variety of questions, both trivial and important in their nature, in which the British Government can have no other interest than a regard for his Excellency's honour and reputation, for the true interests of his Government, the happiness of his own mind, and the essential purposes of justice with a reference to the points in discussion.

5. With this letter from his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of Hoosein Alee Khan's pension, I received another letter of the same date from his Excellency, on the more important subject of reform. The latter, I am sorry to add, is like the former, a tissue of erroneous statements without any solid argument whatever. But I am occupied in translating and replying to this letter, and I shall have the honour of addressing you again on the subject of it in the course of a very few days.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
31st December 1813.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 30th of December 1813.)

I have received your letter, dated the 22d of Zeehijj (16th December), in reply to mine of the 21st of that month, regarding the distribution of the provision of 2,000 rupees per mensem, assigned to the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan. It is idle for you to dispute on this subject. I wish to avoid dispute on any point if it be possible, and it is better that you excuse me on this occasion.

With regard to the monthly allowance, what you said was agreed to, and my conception of the sense of Lord Minto's letter was explained to you. You may give it any construction that you think proper; and with regard to your arguments to prove the want of title in the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan, the eldest son of Hyder Beg Khan, to a share of this provision, it is obvious that the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan must be included among the dependants of Hyder Beg, and that the right of all his dependants is established by the passage in Lord Minto's letter that has been quoted. I have no concern nor interference in the matter.

You have written that the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan are not in a condition of distress, as was proved by your former letter. In reply to that former letter, I told you that I knew nothing of the matter.

In

In answer to your observation, that if "a part of this pension were assigned to the wife and children of Akbur Alee Khan, for whose maintenance he is bound to provide, it would follow that his personal crime must prove the source of a provision for his family, or in other words for himself;" the truth of the matter is this: that I did not propose to associate Akbur Alee Khan in the pension, but merely his wife and children, who are not excluded from the list of Hyder Beg Khan's dependants, and are certainly innocent and blameless, as you yourself have acknowledged, and they were, in fact, proposed to be associated in the distribution of the pension by me, with no other motive whatever than a regard for the Governor-General's suggestion.

With a reference to your remark, that the wife and children of "Akbur Alee Khan can have no possible right, in the opinion of the Governor-General, to a share of this particular allowance," as the allowance in question was granted in compliance with your request, if those persons be not entitled to a share of it, in the opinion of your Government, you may do whatever you think proper.

I have already sent you four thousand rupees, the amount of the pension for two months, without taking any notice of the money which is due by Hoosein Alee Khan to the Sirkar, regarding which I shall say nothing for the present, but hereafter the proper steps shall be taken for the recovery of this amount from the Khan.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th February 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, dated the 31st ultimo and 7th instant, in answer to my several letters and reports of the 23d November, 2d, 13th, and 22d ultimo, having reference to the property and will of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, to the distribution of the pension assigned by the Vizier to Hoosein Alee Khan, and to his Excellency's recent proceedings regarding the reform of his administration. The English copies of letters intended to be addressed to the Vizier by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General on the subjects above noticed, have also been received, and are satisfactory in the highest degree.

2. The general principle which his Lordship in Council has been pleased to lay down for my guidance in future negotiations with the Vizier shall be adhered to with the strictest attention, and the particular instructions of the Government on the immediate subjects of your despatches, shall be carried into effect with success, if the utmost exertion of my zeal and ability can induce it, on my receipt of the Persian letters to the address of his Excellency the Vizier.

3. The concession of the original purposes of the Government regarding the property and will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and the unconditional surrender of that property to his Excellency the Vizier, cannot fail to afford the highest gratification to his Excellency's mind, and will, I trust, have the salutary effect of producing his cheerful acquiescence in the object of the appeal to his generosity in behalf of the relations of the deceased, as well as of inducing his Excellency to listen to the more powerful arguments which are contained in the Governor-General's letter regarding the momentous question of reform, and the distribution of the pension of Hoosein Alee Khan.

4. It shall be my particular study to aid and maintain the impressions which his Lordship's letters to the Vizier are so well calculated to produce, and to refrain

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Letter
from the Vizier.

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from Resident at
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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

refrain from urging his Excellency on questions of inferior moment, or of a nature to irritate his mind. There are, indeed, comparatively but a few points of inferior moment depending between his Excellency and me, and the nature of them is generally such, that the accomplishment of our just views with regard to them would be comprehended under that of a reform in the system of his Excellency's administration, because the vices of the present system alone have given rise to those injuries and complaints of individuals entitled to our protection, as the subjects and servants of the Government, which have induced my intercession in their behalf.

5. Some questions, however, have arisen, and are likely hereafter to arise, in which the difference of sentiment between the British Government and the Vizier is ascribable rather to his Excellency's unhappy disposition, than to vices in the system of his administration. His unnatural conduct, for example, to his mother and sister-in-law, and his repeated encroachments on their rights; his jealousy and vindictive resentment, manifested to all such of his subjects and dependants as have merited and obtained our intercession in former times in their behalf; his general disinclination, founded on a perverseness not unfrequently observed, but particularly striking in the Vizier's character, towards the power which raised him from obscurity, to which the weight of his obligation is irksome, and on which his state of dependence is mortifying; all these are sources of disagreement between his Excellency and the Resident at his Court, which it seems impossible or very difficult to avoid, without a compromise, on the part of the latter, of some just and essential principle of the alliance between the two States; and with a reference to questions of this nature, the effect of repeated concession on such a mind as his Excellency the Vizier's would appear to deserve consideration.

6. I shall take an early opportunity of submitting to the notice of the Government a statement of all the subordinate questions which are now in discussion, or are likely to arise with the Vizier, and I shall observe the greatest possible caution in agitating any of those questions till I be honoured with a special communication of the sentiments of Government regarding them.

7. On one particular point connected with the orders of the Government for the surrender of the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan, I am desirous of obtaining instructions before I make over the estate to the Vizier. A sum of money exceeding 5,000 rupees has been already expended by the widow of Chutra Mull Seth, for the subsistence of cattle, the wages of servants, and other indispensable charges, with a view to the preservation of the property; and in the case of the Vizier's refusal to grant a suitable provision to the widow and grandchildren of Chutra Mull, it seems just and reasonable that his Excellency should bear all the charges of the estate from the day of the death of Tuhseen Alee Khan, or at all events that the residuary legatees should be relieved from the burthen of those charges.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
28th January 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 4th March 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. The enclosed are a copy and translation of his Excellency the Vizier's reply to my letter of the 4th instant on the important subject of reform; a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 6th instant.

2. The tenor of the letter now transmitted does not appear to my judgment to require many remarks.

From

From its general scope it is obvious that the real intention of the Vizier, in deputing Ameens to Purtaubgurh, was a partial commencement of measures erroneously ascribed to my advice, with a view to the failure of those measures, to be afterwards used as a pretext for defeating the views of our Government in the reform of his Excellency's administration, on the ground that they were not to be accomplished, or that their accomplishment was incompatible with the exercise of his Excellency's independent authority.

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from Resident at
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3. The observation in his Excellency's letter regarding the difficulty of selecting Ameens to be deputed to all the districts of his dominions, and his description of the universal introduction of the system of reform at one time as "*a burden not to be borne*," are sufficiently demonstrative of the design which I have thus been compelled to ascribe to him; for his Excellency must be perfectly aware, that the introduction of the system proposed into the whole of the ceded territory was accomplished with perfect ease immediately on its cession to the Company, and was attended with the most salutary effects; and his Excellency is further aware, that at the time of his selection of eight persons as Ameens to be employed in the district of Purtaubgurh, there were hundreds of more respectable persons in attendance at this place desirous of employment, if it could be had, on terms that were compatible with their condition.

4. The Vizier has thought proper to disavow his having promised to furnish me with copies of the proclamation to be issued to his subjects, for the purpose of circulation by me through the only satisfactory medium of the commanding officers of our troops; and he has been further pleased to assign as a reason for not imparting to me the terms of his proclamations and instructions, that they were the same with those of the drafts originally prepared with my concurrence. The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council will not suspect me of referring to a promise by his Excellency the Vizier which his Excellency had never conveyed to me; but the words of his repeated assurance on the point being still in my perfect recollection, are submitted on the present occasion, that his Lordship in Council may judge of the candour with which his Excellency has interpreted them. When I first recommended to his Excellency the circulation of his proclamations through our officers, he answered in these words, "Very well, what you advise shall be done:" and on every subsequent occasion his reply was to a similar effect, or that "the papers were in hand and should be sent to me."

5. His Excellency has, in one or two passages of this and his former letter, objected to the season of the year at which the commencement of the reform was proposed to him, forgetting, or seeming to forget, that the date of my written suggestions on the subject was the 10th of November last, and that I had urged the deputation of Ameens during the whole of the month preceding; that particular season of the year, in the opinion of every person conversant in revenue affairs, which is most favourable to the execution of the measures that his Excellency was advised to adopt; though in reality there be nothing in the character or tendency of those measures which could render them improper or inapplicable at any season of the year, if undertaken with a desire of their success.

6. His Excellency has been pleased in this letter to bring a charge of inconsistency against me, by comparing my recommendation of the employment of some of the best and most efficient of his present officers of revenue, under the new system, and in a new and more efficient character, with my remonstrance against the continuance of Koodrut Oolla Khan in Purtaubgurh, the scene of this person's established and acknowledged oppression. His Excellency has further attempted to obviate the manifest inconsistency of his own measures in Purtaubgurh with my respectful advice on the subject of them, by declaring, rather late in the discussion, his original intention to have removed Koodrut Oolla Khan from that district, and to have appointed a new collector in his room, when the Ameens should have commenced their proceedings. That nothing could be more consistent with my recommendation above quoted than the immediate and indispensable removal of so rapacious and oppressive an officer

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from Resident at
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officer as the present Aumil of Purtaubghur is surely sufficiently apparent; and the true object of Koodrut Oolla Khan's continuance in that district, as stated to me on authority which I have every reason to believe, was no other than his impeding and opposing the progress of the measures of reform, and preventing by clandestine practices, under secret instructions from his Excellency, the admission of the Ameens into his district, or the attendance of the landholders on those Ameens.

7. The succeeding paragraphs of the Vizier's Letter are deserving of notice, as they develop that unhappy frame of mind in the Vizier which has ever led his Excellency to reject or to evade the counsels of our Government when they oppose his personal views, on the pretext of their impairing his authority; which he conceives that we are bound to support, without reference to the justice or expediency of his measures, or to be persuaded of the propriety of his measures by his own assertions alone. I have frequently had occasion to comment on the Vizier's misconstruction of that essential principle of the alliance subsisting between the two States, which prescribes his universal consultation with the officers of the British Government in the ordinary exercise of his authority, and his regulating his proceedings by their advice; and the exposition of this principle by Lord Wellesley in his negotiation with the Vizier at Lucknow, to which I have often solicited in vain the dispassionate attention of the Vizier, seems to afford the most satisfactory reply to his Excellency's observations on this occasion.

8. At a conference on the 15th instant with the Vizier, when I submitted to him the reports which had reached me subsequently to the transmission of my letter of the 11th of December last, as referred to in my despatch of the 6th instant, namely, that his Excellency's instructions and proclamations had never been given to the Ameens, and that the papers intended to be given to them were different from what I had suggested, his Excellency inadvertently admitted that they did differ in one most important respect, that of conveying a positive order for a general measurement of the lands, which he knew to be utterly impracticable in the time prescribed for its execution, as well as most injurious, if it were practicable: so that, by this inadvertent admission on the part of his Excellency at our conference, it became obvious that the real design of deputing Ameens to Purtaubgurb, was no other than an expedient to frustrate the objects of reform, and ascribe their failure to our Government: and his Excellency, aware of this inference, has endeavoured, towards the close of his letter, to remove it, by observing that he would have waved the order for actual measurement of the lands, if I had objected to it in my letter of the 11th, that is, before I could possibly have known that such was his Excellency's intention; since he had carefully avoided to furnish me with copies of his instructions to the Ameens, and my uniform remonstrance against measurement in the early stages of this discussion, more particularly in the memorial which I submitted to him on the 29th of August 1812, precluded my suspicion of such an order being contained in those instructions.

9. The Vizier's concluding remark regarding the pension assigned to Hoosein Ale Khan will not escape the observation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council. At my conference with his Excellency above noticed, I laboured, by every respectful and conciliatory argument that I could use, to convince his Excellency's judgment of the extraordinary nature of his misconception of the meaning of Lord Minto's expressions on the subject of this provision. The result of my exertions is apparent, and I am sorry to have occasion to add, that my instances on a number of other subordinate questions, equally just in their nature, have been treated with similar disregard.

10. The Vizier has been manifestly led to believe, by the vague and unfounded reports of designing persons around him, that the sentiments of the present Government are favourable to his views of absolute independence, uncontrollable by the Resident's advice; and till this misconception be removed, I have no expectation of a change in those unhappy and pernicious counsels which have guided his recent proceedings.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
22d January 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.
From

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 20th of January 1814.)

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received your letter, dated the 13th Mohurru (written the 4th of January), in answer to my two letters dated the 6th of Mohurru (30th ultimo), regarding the distribution of the pension assigned to the family of Hyder Beg Khan, and the deputation of Ameens.

You state that "copies and translations of both my letters have been submitted to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, whose deliberate and impartial consideration the arguments contained in them will receive," &c. As the due arrangement and prosperity of all the concerns of this Government depend on his Lordship's kindness and cordial friendship and support, I have full hope and confidence that his Lordship will peruse what I have written with the greatest attention and care, and will determine the question in such a manner as to promote the immediate and future advantage of this State, the maintenance and duration of my authority and power, and the reputation of the Honourable Company's Government; and you, also, in your representations to his Lordship on the subject, will have aided and assisted the observance of the relations of friendship and amity subsisting between the two States. You submit, with particular reference to our conversation regarding Ameens, that "the object of your inquiry on that occasion could never have been limited to the single district of Purtaubgurh but must have comprized every district in my dominions." The truth is this: that the nomination of Ameens to Purtaubgurh in the first instance, or as a beginning, is no proof whatever of my design to limit the deputation of Ameens to that district alone; for the appointment of persons properly qualified to all the districts at once, was a measure by no means free from difficulty, or rather was impossible: and as the observance of the rule to take the most important things first was intended, and no district required attention sooner than Purtaubgurh, where the disaffection and rebellion of the landholders, in consequence of the non-employment of British troops to suppress them, are obvious, and where it was originally stated that Ameens should on this account be sent; therefore, notwithstanding that the present was not the proper time, in compliance with your repeated desire, Ameens were deputed to that district; and it was also desirable that time should be had for perusing the papers, and other matters relating to the settlement, with care. If all these considerations induced the precedence of Purtaubgurh to other districts in the deputation of Ameens for its settlement, this measure could not be deemed irregular. Further, in your written suggestions which were sent to me on the 10th of November last, you advised that, "in cases where the continuance of former Aumils under the new system might be intended, the settlement of their districts on the new plan should be entrusted to those Aumils, in the character of collectors or Zillahdars." Now as I had all along intended to displace Koodrut Oolla Khan, Aumil of Purtaubgurh, I deputed Ameens to that district in the first instance. Had I wished to continue this Aumil, I should have sent the proclamations and instructions directly to him, as your suggestion authorized, instead of committing them to the Ameens.

With regard to your remark, that "the universal introduction of the new system at the same instant of time, by proclamations to be issued and circulated throughout my dominions, through the medium of my Aumils and the commanding officer of the British troops, is indispensable." The case is this: that the universal introduction of the system at one time is a burden not to be borne, and can produce no other good but disorder and confusion, which are always attendant on haste; more particularly at a time like the present, which is not the proper time for those measures, and at which the deputation of Ameens was occasioned by no other cause than your urgent remonstrances on the subject, which admitted of no delay. The circulation of the proclamations through the commanding officers of your troops was never promised by me; and with regard to your remark, that "you could never have contemplated the commencement of any measure of reform, or the deputation of a single Ameen, till you should be furnished with copies of the proclamation," &c. The case is this: that the drafts of the proclamations and instructions were originally prepared with your advice, and copies of them

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Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

were kept by you at that time, consequently there could be no necessity for sending them to you again.

You submit, with reference to Zillahs and Zillahdars, that "the division and subdivision of my dominions into Zillahs and smaller districts was the first measure recommended during our discussions of two years ago, and consequently that no proposal of yours could be unconnected with the appointment of Zillahdars;" yet, in your written suggestions of the 10th of November, it is stated, that "such of the present Aumils and Tehsildars as are worthy of confidence should continue in the charge of their Zillahs, under the new system, as collectors, nominating their subordinate Tehsildars to collect the revenue papers, and transmit schemes of the settlement, as above explained, to the Zillahdars, who should submit them with their remarks to the Presence," &c. Consider this sentence with the preceding one quoted from your letter, and you will see that they are inconsistent with each other; for you recommended the continuance of such of the present Aumils as were worthy of confidence, not the appointment of new Zillahdars, and therefore as there are several Aumils who have given satisfaction to the landholders and peasantry, and kept their districts in a flourishing state, paying their revenue regularly, while there are others also equally deserving, though the state of their districts and their collection of the revenue be less satisfactory, owing to the disaffection and disobedience of the landholders whom they are unable to punish, it seemed consistent with your written suggestions to continue all those Aumils in their districts, and it was unnecessary to appoint new Zillahdars; whereas, in the districts of Purtaubgurh and others, to which Ameens were intended to be sent, the object of doing so was this: that whenever Koodrut Oolla Khan, who was long acquainted with the landholders and Seghadars, should place them in attendance on the Ameens, and the Ameens should commence their proceedings, Koodrut Oolla Khan should be removed from the district, and another Zillahdar should be appointed in his room. The appointment of Ameens at this time was most certainly in compliance with your verbal and written suggestions, and their suspension in consequence of your letter; and as such things are manifestly a cause of slight in the eyes of the people, my grief on the occasion cannot be said to be misplaced.

With a reference to your concluding remark, that "the result of our protracted discussions on the important question of reform, and the express and explicit tenor of my letter to Lord Minto, has fixed on me a solemn obligation," &c. The truth is this: that whatever is written in the said letter, and in whatever manner it was written, I have not the smallest idea of departing from, and for the reasons above set forth. It is no where established nor to be inferred from my proceedings, that a partial introduction of the reform into some districts was all that I had in my view. As the British Government, in consequence of their friendship for me and in the terms of established treaties, as well as from motives of justice, which is their peculiar attribute, are ever disposed to give advice for the better management of my affairs, the prosperity of my country, and the preservation of my power and authority, which are maintained by their assistance alone; under these circumstances, a measure which they have recommended with a view to the advantage of my Government, the prosperity of my country, and the preservation of my authority and power, how is it possible that in the progress of such a measure, any departure or transgression should take place?

You have written, that "the execution of this measure, which is indispensable, may be attempted in either of two ways," &c. to which I reply, that communication, concurrence, and advice in the general concerns of the Government, in the manner established by treaty as well as by uniform practice, since my accession to the musnud, with former Residents at my Court, have never been departed from with you, and shall not be departed from in future; and the British Government, too, from a consideration of the decrease of my authority and power, which are maintained by their assistance alone, will never admit of a departure from that practice, as I have repeatedly written and told you in the most express terms that it can never be agreeable to my mind, and that I will not on any principle consent to it.

With

With a reference to your remark at our conference of the 22d of Mohurram (15th instant), that "the cause of your remonstrance against the deputation of Ameen was your conviction of the injury that must arise from my order for the measurement of the lands." The case is this: that I would not have refused to acquiesce in this particular if it had been mentioned in your letter of the 11th of December, which was the cause of my suspension of the Ameen; but in that letter no such cause is assigned, and the grounds of your recommendation are very different.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

You have stated in the beginning of your letter to which this is a reply, that "you might with propriety have refrained from answering either of my letters till the judgment of the Government should be known, and that on one subject, namely, the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, from motives of respect you would be silent." Yet, notwithstanding this remark, you spoke to me on that subject at our last conference, and therefore I write to you again, that in my letter to the Governor-General of the 12th of October last, I mentioned particularly that I had granted at your suggestion a pension of 2,000 rupees per mensem for all the dependants of Hyder Beg, and that I will never consent to any departure from that arrangement; consequently, the children and wife of Akbur Alee Khan cannot be excluded from the provision assigned. As you have sent copies and translations of my former letters to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, it is necessary that this letter should also be submitted to his Lordship.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. The original Persian letters from his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General to the address of his Excellency the Vizier, which are noticed in your despatches of the 31st December and 7th January last, were received from the Persian department on the 11th instant, and I had the honour of presenting them to the Vizier on Tuesday the 15th instant, when I requested a conference with that view.

2. The remarks with which I prefaced the delivery of his Lordship's letters to the Vizier were conciliatory and friendly in the extreme. I observed to his Excellency that it had become my duty, during a residence of nearly seven years at his Court, to present a number of letters to him from the head of the British Government in India on various subjects of equal and inferior importance to those which I held in my hand; but that the circumstances attending the preparation and delivery of those letters, the spirit in which they were conceived, and the questions to which they had reference, gave a peculiar interest, in my mind, to the occasion of this conference with his Excellency, which I had never experienced before, and which I was satisfied that his Excellency would ascribe to it on perusing the letters before him.

3. At the close of Lord Minto's administration, it was a source of the most cordial satisfaction to the members of the Government and to me, that the several questions depending between the British Government and his Excellency had been brought to a happy adjustment, and that no difference of opinion remained to be obviated or reconciled. A question had subsequently arisen, of which the view that was taken by our Government, and its instructions on the subject to me, though framed with the most cordial desire to promote his Excellency's reputation, had proved unsatisfactory to his mind, and the consequence, not unnatural nor uncommon, of a difference of opinion on this point, had been that of the revival of discussions which appeared to have previously terminated in a friendly and satisfactory manner. The question to which I alluded, namely, that of the application of the personal property of Tuhseen Alee Khan, with the discussion to which it had given rise, and also the other discussions the renewal of which it had occasioned, had been reported by me

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Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

me to the Government, and had received its consideration at a time when the sentiments and feelings towards his Excellency of a new Governor-General of India must necessarily have influenced the decision in a very considerable degree, and when the collective decision of the Government, as tending of necessity to develop the sentiments and feelings of the personage who was now at the head of the administration, with a reference to the state of Oude and to his Excellency's person and Government, could not fail to excite a peculiar interest in his Excellency, and to make a lasting impression on his mind.

4. Under such circumstances as these, I observed, it must be satisfactory and gratifying in the extreme to his Excellency as well as to me, to perceive in the letters which I presented to him a sentiment of cordial friendship, a feeling of personal regard, a disposition to soothe and conciliate, to concede when concession might be practicable, and to abstain from unnecessary interference in the concerns of his Excellency's Government, as well as from controversial discussions, to the utmost possible extent, combined with a resolution to give advice on occasions which might require interference, with a view to the mutual benefit of both States, or to his Excellency's honour and advantage, and to urge that advice on such occasions (since to refrain were a dereliction of duty) in terms of dignified firmness, but in the spirit of cordial friendship, and with expressions of the sincerest regard.

5. Of all those benevolent intentions on the part of the present administration of the British Government in India, the two letters from Lord Moira, which I was now to present to his Excellency, were demonstrative in an equal degree, in reality, though the concessionary terms of the one, and the firmer tone of the other, might appear at first sight to his Excellency to authorize a different construction. The first I proceeded to read to him; and after doing so, I took a retrospective view of the character and services of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and of the circumstances which brought that person originally to the notice of the British Government and its representative at the Court of Lucknow.

6. Tuhseen Alee Khan, I observed, was the favoured and confidential servant of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, a necessary and perhaps an involuntary instrument of the gratification of many of his master's propensities, the depository of most of his secrets as well as of much of his personal wealth, more particularly of his wardrobe and jewels. In the exercise of those trusts he had proved himself a most zealous and faithful servant, and worthy of the confidence reposed in him. On the accession of Vizier Alee Khan to the musnud, through an honest though erroneous conviction on the part of the British Government of the justice of his title to that station, Tuhseen was precluded from affording the particular information which he possessed regarding the spurious birth of Vizier Alee Khan, by considerations of the most imperious nature which he was totally unable to control; but his attachment to the Government of Oude, and a sense of his duty to the State, as the confidential servant of its former ruler and depository of much of his wealth, induced him to act in such a manner as to incur the implacable resentment of Vizier Alee Khan, to the imminent danger of his own life, (which was preserved by the intervention of our Government,) and subsequently, on a proper occasion, to afford that information to the Government, which by demonstrating the defective title of Vizier Alee conduced to the happy establishment of his Excellency in the sovereignty of his hereditary dominions, through the influence of the British justice and power. By such conduct as this, I observed, Tuhseen Alee Khan had originally obtained the notice and favour of our Government, and had established a manifest claim to the gratitude and kindness of the Vizier; and both had been constantly merited, in a degree which no other servant could boast, by a series of faithful and zealous attachment and services, which had ended only with his life. The liberality of his disposition had prevented him from amassing any personal wealth, and the integrity of his conduct while in office had precluded his relations or subordinate officers and servants from profiting by the situation which he held, to secure their future independence, so that his household-furniture and his wardrobe, with a few houses which he had purchased or built, formed the only

only property that he possessed, or considered as at his personal disposal; and this he had bequeathed by a will, not strictly conformable, it was admitted, with the dictates of the Mohummudan law, nor with the practice of Mussulman countries, but justified, in the opinion of the testator and in that of the British Government, by the peculiar circumstances of his case, and entitled in an extraordinary degree to the indulgent consideration of his sovereign. The British Government or its representative at Lucknow had no knowledge of the terms of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will till the near approach of the death of the testator. We could have no interest whatever in the accomplishment of the purposes of the will, save a feeling of regard for the character and memory of the deceased, and of humanity for his needy dependants, which must be felt in common with us by his Excellency; and the gratification of those just and natural feelings, on both parts, appeared to be so easily consulted by our Government's acceptance of the trust which Tuhseen Alee Khan had reposed in it, and by his Excellency's recognition of the will, that no objection occurred to a decision of the question on this basis, and to the instructions which had been issued to me and communicated to his Excellency for that purpose. His Excellency would be disposed to admit, on a calm and dispassionate reflection, that there was nothing contained in those instructions, which the peculiar circumstances of the case, and the intimate nature of the connection subsisting between the two States, would not have justified in the opinion of the world and of the subjects of his Excellency's Government; and more particularly with regard to myself, that I must have been justified, and my conduct have been approved by the government whose instructions I had received, in proceeding to execute its commands without any hesitation or delay, and in applying the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the purposes for which he had bequeathed it. The opposite conduct which I pursued with a view to his Excellency's satisfaction, and the result of the reference which I had made, as demonstrative of the wish of the Government to gratify his Excellency's mind, to yield even to his prejudices and prepossessions in every practicable case, would, I doubted not, be viewed by his Excellency in the only suitable light, and would produce corresponding sentiments in his mind, not only with a reference to the question which was the immediate subject of this letter, but to every other point in discussion between the British Government and himself.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. The Vizier interrupted me here, to express the sense which he felt of my friendly and considerate conduct with regard to the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan, the acquisition of which he ascribed to my acquiescence in his original desire to suspend the sale of the property, and my ultimate intercession with the Government, which gave rise to the present arrangement. "Had you sold the property," said his Excellency, "as you were instructed and empowered to do, this arrangement could not have taken place, and my views must of necessity have been defeated: you are entitled to my thanks for your consideration." I replied, that a similar result might always be expected by his Excellency when he reposed his confidence in me; that the gratification of his Excellency's mind was ever my leading desire, and that my best advice and exertions should always be directed to this end, when the accomplishment of his Excellency's wishes should seem consistent, as on the present occasion, with the purposes of essential justice, and conducive to his honour and happiness.

8. We now reverted to the consideration of the extent of the provisions to be assigned to the relations and servants of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and I submitted to his Excellency's liberality, that the amount which was fixed by the deceased, and recommended in fact by the Governor-General, though his Lordship, from motives of delicacy, had delegated the expression of his wishes to me, should not be diminished by this arrangement; and with a reference to the grandchildren of Chutra Mull, that his Excellency would be pleased to consider both his own name and the name of Lord Moira, as well as the services of Tuhseen, in assigning a provision for those orphans. His Excellency desired me to state to him what I wished to propose for the children; observing, however, that it was notorious that they needed not any provision, and that his

Bengal Political
Correspondence,
4 Mar. 1856.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

only inducement to give them any thing was a desire to gratify me. I proposed that the aggregate amount of the provisions assigned in the will, namely, 575 rupees per mensem, should be extended to 1,000 rupees, giving 425 rupees per mensem to the family of Chutra Mull Seth; and on his Excellency's objecting to this, I restricted my proposal in their behalf to an allowance of 300 rupees, which his Excellency, though he did not promise to grant, seemed disposed, as I thought, to consent to, and the final adjustment of the question was suspended till a future occasion.

9. I now presented to the Vizier, and read to him from a copy in my hand, after some appropriate introductory remarks, the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter under date the 7th of January, having a reference to the question of reform. His Excellency, after hearing with attention the whole of the contents of that letter, inquired if his letter to my address of the 20th January last had been submitted to the notice of the Government before his Lordship's letter was written. I answered, that it certainly had not; but that a translation of his Excellency's letter, which I had lost no time in forwarding to the Presidency, must have been received before this was dispatched; and if the contents of his Excellency's letter had suggested the necessity of alteration in the tenor of the Governor-General's letter, or had occasioned any change in the sentiments of his Lordship in Council on the subject of it, that alteration would certainly have been made. Any change in the sentiments of the Government would unquestionably have been signified to me. I added, that this was a subject on which his Excellency would, of course, be disposed to meditate and deliberate by himself, before he made any communication to me, and that I would no longer intrude on his time. He replied, that he would peruse the letter with attention, and appoint an early day to converse with me further on the subject. On taking leave, he again expressed the joy and satisfaction which he felt, and which was manifest, as I thought, in his countenance, at the decision by Government in his favour of the question regarding Tuhseen Alee Khan's property, and the unconditional surrender of that property, which I declared my readiness to make over to him whenever he should be pleased to desire it, relying on his own liberality for a favourable result to the appeal which I had offered in behalf of the relations of the deceased.

10. On Wednesday the 16th instant, the day following our conference, I received a message from his Excellency the Vizier to this effect; that he was disposed to follow my advice implicitly on all the questions depending; that he considered me as his best friend, and was persuaded of the justice and truth of every remark that I had made to him at our conference on the foregoing day; that he was preparing a letter to the address of the Governor-General on the subject of the provisions to be assigned to Tuhseen's relations and servants, which he wished to get rid of, in the first instance, in such a manner as to satisfy me, and with this view he requested me to send to him, in writing, my proposal in behalf of the family of Chutra Mull Seth. I returned an appropriate answer to his Excellency's message above quoted, and sent a written statement on the subject of it to the following effect. "My first proposal to
" your Excellency, in behalf of the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth, was
" that an allowance of 425 rupees per mensem should be assigned to them,
" making the whole of your Excellency's bounty to the relations and servants
" of the deceased the sum of 1,000 rupees per mensem, which I was satisfied
" that our Government would think liberal: but observing your Excellency's
" reluctance to this grant, and most anxious, on every occasion, to consult your
" Excellency's pleasure in preference to every object of my own, I immediately
" restricted my proposal to the aggregate sum of 875 rupees per mensem,
" giving a monthly allowance of only 300 rupees to the family of Chutra
" Mull Seth, and I pledged myself to satisfy the Government that this provi-
" sion would be sufficient for their support."

11. The Vizier took the statement from my Moonshee, and promised a satisfactory reply to it. On the evening of the following day he transmitted to me by a confidential servant a letter to the address of my Lord Moira, communicative of his

his final resolution in favour of the servants and relations of Tuhseen Alee Khan, which announces the confirmation of all the deceased's bequests in favour of the former, on the condition of their attendance on his Excellency, and a grant of 200 rupees per mensem to the latter, in compliance, as his Excellency has been pleased to observe, with the desire of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and with my concurrence and advice. The letter to his Lordship's address has been transmitted to the Persian department.

Bengal Political
Communications
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

12. With this letter to the address of my Lord Moira, the Vizier sent me a letter, a translation of which is enclosed; and I have thought it my duty to reply to that letter in the terms of the accompanying document, which I have used the precaution of submitting to his Excellency as a draft, without official signature or form, to ascertain that it meets with his approbation, or to enable me to gratify his wish regarding the terms of it, if the alteration which he proposes be practicable consistently with candour or truth.

13. I am sorry to have occasion to add, with a reference to the concluding paragraph of your despatch of the 31st of December last, that the Vizier has expressly refused his consent to the smallest increase of the allowance of the members of the khoord muhl of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and that a number of those unfortunate women continue to be clamorous in the extreme. Understanding by a message from his Excellency that they meditated a predatory attempt against some houses containing valuable property in the neighbourhood of the place where they reside, I have complied with his Excellency's requisition of a guard of the Company's sepoy to protect his property from their hands: but I see no immediate prospect of their desisting from their clamorous proceedings, unless their demand of an additional allowance be complied with.

14. The Vizier has not hitherto made any communication to me on the important subject of reform, or on the question of the pension of Hoosein Alee Khan; but I am disposed to augur the most salutary effects and impressions on his Excellency's mind from the tenor of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter to him on these subjects, and from the friendly and conciliatory observations, on my own part, with which the delivery of that letter was accompanied, in obedience to his Lordship's commands.

15. I take this opportunity of reporting, for his Lordship in Council's information, that another vexatious discussion between his Excellency the Vizier and myself, regarding the terms of the receipt to be granted by her Highness the younger Begum for the amount of her monthly stipend in lieu of her jagier and provisions, has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, by his Excellency's ultimate acquiescence in a proposal submitted to him by me, and to which he announced his consent in a very gracious manner by a letter of yesterday's date.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th February 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 18th February 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

The question of the provision for the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth and the servants of Tuhseen Alee Khan deceased being now settled, agreeably to the desire of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, with your concurrence and advice, and my answer to his Lordship's letter being also sent to you with this, I write to you now to desire that the person in charge of the property of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan be directed to make over the whole of it to the servants of my Government.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 19th February 1814.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's gracious letter on the subject of the provisions assigned to the relations and servants of Tuhseen Alee Khan, accompanied by a letter from your Excellency to the address of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which I shall forward to his Lordship without delay : and if your Excellency will be pleased to appoint some person to take charge of the property of the deceased, and direct the attendance of that person on me, I shall immediately instruct Lieutenant Fortune, the commanding officer of my escort, and Sheikh Shubbun, the confidential servant of the deceased, to accompany your Excellency's servant to his dwelling-house, to deliver over the whole of the property, and to remove the Honourable Company's sepoy's who are placed as a guard at the house.

As your Excellency has been pleased to express, in your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that the provision for the family of Chutra Mull Seth had been fixed in concurrence with my advice, and as the statement which I submitted to your Excellency contained the sum of 425 rupees as the maximum, and 300 rupees as the minimum of a provision for those indigent orphans, it has occurred to me as a possible circumstance, that the sum of 200 rupees in your Excellency's letter to Lord Moira may have been inserted by a mistake of the transcriber. But should it be otherwise, as the satisfaction of your Excellency's mind is the constant object of my desire, and predominant over every other consideration, I am ready to take upon myself the responsibility for the smallness of this provision, and to acquiesce in its ascription to my advice. There are, however, two or three other subordinate matters, having reference to the will of the deceased, which your Excellency has omitted to notice in your letter to his Excellency Lord Moira, and which I am persuaded that your Excellency will pardon my recommending to your favourable consideration, should they not have been present to your mind while preparing your letter to the Governor-General, more especially as in fact they were agreed to in the earlier stages of this discussion, namely, first, the construction of a monument over the grave of your Excellency's faithful servant, Tuhseen Alee Khan ; and, secondly, the propriety of the grant of two of the provisions particularly specified in his will, those of Sheikh Shubbun and Moonshee Aftaub Raee.

Your Excellency is doubtless aware, that the maintenance of the elephants, horses, and other cattle, belonging to the estate of the deceased, and the wages of several servants, have been defrayed by the widow of Chutra Mull Seth, under my particular orders, since the demise of Tuhseen Alee Khan ; and the amount of these several charges, which is stated at 6,000 rupees, is a burden on this unfortunate person, from which the generosity of your Excellency's mind may perhaps dispose you to release her, as the whole of the property is your own. This point I submit to your Excellency without any further remark, because I have stated it already to our Government, and await the communication of its commands.

The date of the commencement of the pensions does not appear to be specified in your Excellency's letter to Lord Moira, nor in your gracious letter to me ; and therefore I beg to be informed of your Excellency's intentions on this point, that I may report it to the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the following letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Persian Secretary to the Government, and the following translation of a letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Governor-General, which accompanied Major Baillie's despatches, be here recorded.

To

To John Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, to the address of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and referred to in my despatch of this date to the Secretary in the Political Department. This letter from his Excellency the Vizier is an answer to that from Lord Moira, under date the 31st of December, conveyed by your despatch of the 31st ultimo.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th February 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 28th February 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's obliging letter of the 31st of December, stating that Major Baillie had communicated to you the result of his application to me on the subject of the will of the late Mohummud Tuhseen Alee Khan; and that, as Major Baillie's representations have failed to produce conviction in my mind, and the maintenance of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan's family and dependants may be equally provided for in a manner which cannot possibly appear to me to involve the objection which I opposed to the recognition of his will, the original proposition will, in deference to me, be withdrawn; intimating, at the same time, your Excellency's conviction that I shall feel it becoming my dignity, my justice, and my character for generosity, to settle on the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth a provision adequate to their maintenance and that of the servants of the deceased mentioned by name in his will.

I at all times, and in every situation, hope to experience your Excellency's kindness and regard, and I am perfectly satisfied that through the influence of your Lordship's kindness, all my affairs will prosper and flourish. I desire to offer to your Excellency my grateful acknowledgments for what your Excellency, in the benignity of your disposition, has been pleased to determine in the present case, with a view to combine the promotion of my reputation and your own satisfaction, with the maintenance of my independent authority.

In compliance with your Excellency's recommendation, and with a view to promote your satisfaction, I have assigned a provision for the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth, and monthly allowances for the several dependants and servants of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, regulated by the advice of Major Baillie. They will accordingly remain near my person under circumstances of ease and comfort, in the enjoyment of their allowances, and I shall take due care of them.

The particulars of the allowances granted for their support will be made known to your Lordship by the enclosed statement, and by the communications of Major Baillie.

Statement of the allowances alluded to in the foregoing.

For the expenses of the ten days' mourning of the Mohurram
and the Fatehas (obituary ceremonies) in honour of the
deceased, annually.....Rupees 600
To the grandsons of Chutra Mull Seth, monthly 200

Monthly stipends to the under-mentioned dependants of
Tuhseen Alee Khan :

Shehaub-ood-Deen, commonly called Shūbbūn.....	Rupees 200
Aftaub Race Moonshee.....	50
Imāmee	50
Seetul Pershaud Mootusuddie	40
Moonna Loll	25
Balkishen	25

* Carried over..... Rupees 390
7 0 Khoorrum

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

	Brought over	Rupees 390
Khoorrum Eunuch		15
Almass Eunuch.....		15
Muhboob Eunuch.....		15
Wujeeh Eunuch.....		15
Ameen Oollah		15
Meer Cāsīm Alee		15
Munnoo		15
Seedee Bellaul		10
Seedee Mobarek		10
Hedāqut Oollah		5
Ramzaunce		5

Total amount of stipends to dependants Rupees 525

A true translation :

(Signed) J. MONCKTON,
Persian Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 19th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the notice of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, the enclosed copy and translation of a paper of remarks, which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, on the draft of a letter which I submitted to him regarding the provision assigned to the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth, and some other purposes of the will of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan.

2. On receiving this paper from the Vizier, as I considered it in the light of an answer to the draft of my letter above noticed, I requested his Excellency to inform me whether or not he wished me to consider it in that light, and to submit it to the notice of the Government, or to give official form in the first instance to the draft which I had submitted to him, and to await his official answer.

3. The Vizier replied to my message, that this note was intended for my own information alone, as explanatory of his Letter to Lord Moira, and that he did not wish either my draft of a letter to himself or his remarks on the subject of it to be entered on the official records; but that I might impart the substance of it to the Government, if I thought proper. His Excellency's wish, as he added, and repeated with seeming earnestness to my Moonshee, was to avoid all further discussion on this subject in particular, and to preclude the possibility of a difference of opinion between us on any subject whatever: that we had differed unfortunately on many subjects already, but he hoped that all difference was at an end, and he was resolved to follow my advice implicitly on every future occasion, whether of great or inferior importance.

4. From the tenor of his Excellency's written communication enclosed, it is obvious that his Excellency has resolved to limit the extent of his bounty to the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth to the sum of 200 rupees per mensem, and to consider the pensions assigned to the Vakeel and the Moonshee of Tuhseen Alee Khan as no more than life grants, or as resumable perhaps at his pleasure. Yet, under the instructions of the Government to me, I have not considered myself as at liberty to urge those questions any further, nor to delay the surrender to the Vizier of the property of Tuhseen Alee Khan, which has accordingly been made over to his Excellency.

5. It is satisfactory that his Excellency adheres to his promise of constructing a monument over the grave of his faithful servant, and also that he has agreed to

to repay the charges of subsisting the cattle, &c. from the day of Tuhseen Alee Khan's demise.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
22d February 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 21st February 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

With a reference to the draft of a letter which you sent to me for perusal on the 26th of Suffer (19th instant), in order to ascertain my sentiments on the points which are stated in it, and to have the alterations suggested which I might wish, the state of the matter is this: that I formerly refused to give any allowance whatever to the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth, and that my present consent to give any thing has been occasioned exclusively by the letter of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, my Lord Moira, and by your verbal representations.

The construction of a monument over the grave of the deceased shall certainly take place, as it was promised, but I never made any promise of the perpetuity of the grant to those persons; and the expenses of feeding the cattle from the day of the death of Tuhseen, shall also be refunded by my Government. The date of the commencement of the pensions, and the date of my letter to the Governor-General, are one and the same.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 22d January last, enclosing a copy and translation of his Excellency the Vizier's reply to your letter to his Excellency on the important subject of the reform.

2. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council forbears to make any remarks on the subject of the Vizier's answer to your letter, until his Excellency's determination on the questions to which it relates shall be made known in the reply which his Lordship in Council awaits to his letters addressed to the Vizier, both on the subject of reform and of the distribution of the pension to the family of Hyder Beg Khan.

3. With respect to the latter question, I am directed to take this opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your two despatches on that subject, under dates the 31st December and 28th January last, and of stating to you that, for the reasons above stated, it is not considered necessary to make any particular observations on the conduct of his Excellency with regard to Hoossein Alee Khan, as reported in the former of those despatches, until the effect of his Lordship's letter, above adverted to, shall appear by the tenor of his Excellency's reply.

4. I am further directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 19th ultimo, reporting the delivery of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, above adverted to, and the substance of your communication to his Excellency on that occasion, and to signify to you his Lordship in Council's approbation of the tenor of the observations which you made to his Excellency, and generally of the manner in which you have executed the instructions of Government to which your despatch refers. With respect to the grant of 200 rupees assigned by his Excellency for the support of the relations of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, although it would have been more satisfactory if his Excellency had assigned the larger sum proposed by you; yet, as his Lordship in Council does not consider this point to be one on which the Vizier should be urged further, he approves the tenor of your letter to the Vizier signifying your acquiescence in that arrangement.

5. It

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

5. It is satisfactory to his Lordship in Council to learn that the question respecting the terms of the receipt to be granted by the younger Begum, alluded to in the 15th paragraph of your despatch of the 19th ultimo, above acknowledged, has been settled by his Excellency the Vizier's acquiescence in your proposal on that subject.

6. It is also satisfactory to his Lordship in Council to observe by your letter of the 22d ultimo, the receipt of which I am now directed to acknowledge, that the Vizier has consented to construct a monument over the grave of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and has agreed to repay the expenses of subsisting the cattle, &c. alluded to in your despatch of the 19th of the same month.

7. Your letter of the 15th January, on the subject of the instructions of Government of the 31st of December respecting Bustee Ram, the news-writer, has also been received and laid before the Governor-General in Council, and I am directed to signify to you the satisfaction with which his Lordship in Council has learnt his Excellency's determination to recall the news-writer in question from Elahabad.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
4th March 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 25th March 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. On the evening of the 6th instant I had the honour of receiving from his Excellency the Vizier a letter to my own address, giving cover to his Excellency's reply to the letter from Lord Moira to His Excellency, under date the 7th of January, on the important subject of reform, and regarding the distribution of the pension assigned to Hoosein Alee Khan and his family.

2. A copy and translation of the Vizier's letter to me are transmitted by this despatch, and with a view to facilitate and expedite the deliberation and decision of the Government on the matter and manner of that letter, and of his Excellency's letter to Lord Moira, a translation of the latter document has also been hastily prepared, and is submitted for his Lordship in Council's perusal.

3. I am concerned to have occasion to state, that I cannot see cause to give credit, so ample and implicit as I could wish, to those professions of a cordial desire to concur and co-operate with our Government, which are contained in this letter from the Vizier to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General. I recognize in that document, with regret, a considerable degree of the same unhappy disposition to evade, which has uniformly marked his Excellency's conduct with a reference to the question of reform, since the first agitation of that question, excepting, indeed, for the short period of a month after the date of his last letter to Lord Minto, during which an opposite spirit was indicated, whether genuine or pretended I know not.

4. It seems unnecessary to comment in detail on the tenor of his Excellency's letter to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General. I have submitted my sentiments to the Government on a number of such letters as this during my residence at the Court of the Vizier, and my several despatches to the Government, containing those sentiments and remarks, having received the approbation of the Government, my opinion of his Excellency's proceedings and designs, with a reference to the reform of his administration, may be said to have been adopted as its own.

5. There are two questions arising out of the tenor of the documents enclosed, on which the early decision of the Government appears to be required for my guidance, namely, first, the expediency of acquiescing in the manner of conducting the reform, which is stated in his Excellency's letter to my address

address and referred to in his letter to Lord Moira, and which is manifestly intended to preclude any useful interference on my part; for his Lordship in Council will observe, that while his Excellency expresses his acquiescence in one of the suggestions which were conveyed to him by my letter of the 11th of December, he is totally silent on the subject of the concluding paragraph of that letter, and has not even expressed a design to communicate to me the contents of his proclamation and instructions to Ameens, far less to furnish copies of the proclamation for the purpose of being circulated by me through the medium of the commanding-officers of our troops. As a part of this question, it is to be considered whether or not our acquiescence in his Excellency's plan should be accompanied by a solemn declaration that the Government cannot be responsible for the failure of his Excellency's measures adopted without its knowledge or advice, and that his Excellency's eventual reproaches or complaints on this point will be entitled to no consideration. A declaration to this purpose, on the part of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, might perhaps have the salutary effect of inducing His Excellency the Vizier to seek the concurrence of the Resident in the most important details of the reform, to ensure the success of his measures.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

6. The second question relates to the employment of British troops in support of the measures of the Vizier, having for their professed object a reform in the administration of his revenue, without reference to the justice and expediency, or to the real object of those measures. The question may thus be stated: is the declaration of the British Government to the Vizier, prescribed by my instructions of the 2d of August 1811, and conveyed by me to his Excellency in my letter of the 15th of January 1812, forming a number of my despatch of the 27th of February in that year, to be considered as abrogated by the Vizier's consent to the reform, declared in the manner in which he has declared it? and are his Excellency's requisitions in future for the aid of the British troops to be complied with, unaccompanied by the assertion of a right to investigate and arbitrate the demands which our power may be required to enforce?

7. With a view to facilitate a decision on the merits of the questions which I have stated, I take the liberty of referring the Government to my despatches of the 27th of February and 12th of May 1812, and to the answers to those despatches under dates the 20th of March and 25th of June in that year.

8. I have deemed it to be my duty to refrain from offering any remonstrance to the Vizier on the tenor of his letter to Lord Moira, partly from an idea combined with a feeble expectation that the view which I have taken of it in this despatch may hereafter appear to be erroneous, and partly from a fear of interrupting the harmony which at present subsists between his Excellency the Vizier and myself, and which has been manifested on the part of his Excellency by his voluntary and unexpected concession of a few subordinate points, on which I had ceased to urge him since my receipt of your official despatch of the 31st of December last and your private letters connected with it. A continuance of the same disposition on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, which it shall be my study to cultivate and improve by every effort of conciliation on my own part, may lead his Excellency to distinguish me by a greater share of his confidence, with a reference to the measures of reform, than his letter would seem to prognosticate.

9. It will be satisfactory to his Lordship in Council to observe that the Vizier has been pleased to acquiesce in the distribution of the pension of Hoosein Alea Khan, which I proposed to his Excellency, and which the Government did me the honour to approve.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th March 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 6th March 1814.)

I transmit my reply to the friendly letter of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, my Lord Moira, for your perusal, and for the purpose of being despatched. On a perusal of it you will understand the contents. Regarding the introduction of the plan of reform, refusal and delay were not my objects formerly, nor are they now. As you proposed, in your letter of the 17th Zeehijj (11th December), that each of the districts to be committed to the charge of Ameens should be extended to a territory yielding two lacs, or two lacs and a half of rupees with the view of increasing their salaries, and that, at all events, the superintendence and control of the proceedings of every ten or twelve of those Ameens should be vested in an officer of high rank and of great respectability and integrity, with an adequate salary, as a Zillahdar, I shall accordingly search for and select suitable persons for the office of Ameens, and persons of distinction to be Zillahdars, in the districts and divisions of which the present Aumils should be removed; and having done so, I shall instruct these new officers, and also such of the present Aumils as are to be continued in office, to publish the proclamations and prepare the revenue papers as you desired.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General. (Dated the 12th Rubbee-ool-Avvul 1229, 6th March 1814.)

Your Lordship's friendly letter dated the 7th of January (corresponding with the 14th of Mohurram), replete with expressions of kindness, desiring me to issue the provision for Hoosein Ale Khan and his family, without making any allotment out of it for the family of Akbur Ale Khan, and recommending the plan of reform in the settlement of my country, has arrived at an auspicious time, and as conveying the assurances of your Lordship's favour and kindness with expressions of cordial friendship, has rendered me joyful and happy. My friend, the provision which was fixed for the subsistence of Hoosein Ale Khan, in regard to the distribution of that provision, I wrote to the Resident, Major Baillie, what appeared to me to be the sense of the passage of Lord Minto's letter; but as I wish to consult your Lordship's pleasure in all things, I have now issued the provision as you desired, because I prefer the satisfaction of your Lordship's mind to every other consideration. Let Hoosein Ale Khan attend upon me: he shall be treated with every degree of favour, and shall receive the provision assigned to him.

It has been written, that "my answer to Lord Minto's letter, dated 2d July 1813, expressed a distinct acquiescence in the plan of reform, and conveyed "an assurance that it should be immediately undertaken; but that Major "Baillie has informed the Government that I appear to have abandoned that "salutary intention, and that I have shewn a marked disinclination to listen to his "suggestions referring to that momentous concern." My friend, your sincere well-wisher has shewn no disinclination whatever to adopt the plan of reform; but, on the contrary, although the season was unfavourable to such measures, with a view to the performance of my promise, I deputed Ameens to two districts, which of all my dominions required a settlement the most, and was preparing to issue my orders with regard to all the other districts in my country, when a discussion regarding certain matters which were subversive of my power and authority occasioned a delay, as will have appeared to your Lordship on a perusal of my letter to Major Baillie, dated the 27th of Mohurram (20th January), which was sent to that gentleman with a desire of its being forwarded to your Lordship before my receipt of your friendly letter to myself.

To your Lordship's enlightened mind it cannot be concealed, that the settlement of my country may certainly be accomplished by degrees, and is practicable in process of time; but that the immediate execution of such a work could never have been stated by me, and was very remote from my intention.

What has been written with the pen of kindness, that "it is your Lordship's "anxious desire, and equally the solicitude of those with whom you are associated, "that

"that every testimony of attention, and every procedure which can uphold my dignity, should be manifested by the British Government." My friend, your well-wisher entertains exactly this hope and expectation from the British Government, that the testimonies of attention and consideration for his dignity should daily increase; that the prosperity and splendour of his Government, the permanency of his power and authority, which depend on the favour of the British Government alone, should be constantly augmented and confirmed, more particularly under the administration of your Lordship, whose reputation for every laudable quality, for kindness and benevolence of heart, as well as for magnanimity and extraordinary consideration for princes, is celebrated all over the world, and whose auspicious arrival in these climes I have hailed with peculiar joy, as the source of advancement, prosperity, and splendour to all the concerns of my Government. I am certain that during your Lordship's administration, not one of the affairs of my Government can be subjected to loss or decline.

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25th Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

What has been written in the spirit of friendship, that "there will not be wanting men in my durbar whose advantages would suffer from such a reform, and it is natural that they should attempt to disincline me to the measure and to the British Government for urging it:" the truth is this; that your Lordship's sincere well-wisher acquired the Government of his hereditary dominions through the aid of the British justice alone, and therefore is so cordially disposed to maintain on every occasion the relations of amity and friendship with the British Government, as to preclude his receiving or admitting the interference of any person's advice between himself and that Government, in the cultivation of whose friendship and good-will he is constantly absorbed; so that were any person to engage in an attempt so wicked and abominable as that of disinclining your well-wisher to the British Government, your well-wisher would consider him as his enemy. By no means, and again by no means. By the mighty Creator I swear, that such an idea has never entered into my mind: and from your Lordship's friendship I hope that if any person should ascribe such a thought or report a suspicion so groundless to your Lordship with relation to me, you will blot it at once from your heart, the abode of purity and candour.

Your Lordship has written, that "you entreat me to co-operate, in perfect confidence with you, to maintain the united interests of the two Governments firm and unshaken, and that it shall be your study to forbear, as far as duty will permit, any interference in minor concerns which may be unpleasant to me." My generous friend, your sincere well-wisher, of old, and since his accession to his hereditary power, has ever most earnestly desired a co-operation with the British Government, as the source of the stability of his own country and dominion; and now that this auspicious word has so happily flown from the pen of an exalted chief like your Lordship, adorned with every virtue and grace, and has been applied through excessive kindness to me, I am gratified and rejoiced beyond measure. I am certain that all my just views and concerns must be accomplished and advanced as I could wish them; and I am prepared, whenever your Lordship shall inquire into my other concerns, to give a full and unreserved explanation. With regard to the adoption of the plan for the settlement of my country, I have neither refusal nor delay. But let it be adopted and executed in such a way as to occasion no loss nor diminution of my authority and power, and in the manner explained by my letter of this date to the Resident, which will be submitted for your Lordship's perusal, when the doubts, if it please God, and the apprehension in the mind of the British Government, that unjust exactions on my part occasion the disaffection and rebellion of the landholders, and my demand for the aid of the British troops, will be totally obviated and removed; for, in reality, my disposition is so inimical to all manner of unjust exaction and oppression of my subjects, that I could never tolerate for a moment the smallest departure from engagements on any pretext whatever; and during the whole period of my Government the ruin of a single Zemindar, which is the necessary consequence of oppression, has not in any instance occurred, so that the country, comparatively with former times, is now populous and fertile, as your Lordship will shortly perceive, when with the aid of Almighty God the soil of my dominions shall be refreshed by your Lordship's presence.

Bengal Political
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25 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from the Vizier.

It has exuded from your gracious pen, that "the object of your address is so serious, that you assure yourself I cannot misinterpret the frankness with which your Lordship has exposed our relative situations for my reflection; and, on the contrary, the unreserved manner in which your Lordship has spoken ought to satisfy me that no doubtful sentiment remains concealed." Of a truth, it is as your Lordship has stated. Your well-wisher is fully persuaded that as your Lordship has been the first to commence with such purity of heart the language and manner of kindness, frankness, and unreservedness, this circumstance cannot fail to give me the greatest pleasure and joy: and with a reference to what has been written, that "Major Baillie is instructed by your Lordship to make this principle the guide of his communications, and that your Lordship ardently hopes that I will prove my correspondence to your disposition by my liberal and sincere trust in that gentleman." This assurance on the part of your Lordship is, as it were, the conclusion of my comfort and the perfection of my joy. I have never hitherto been wanting in any of those observations to Major Baillie; and now that your Lordship has thus written on the subject, how can I fail to be still more attentive to them in future? Let your Lordship's august mind be perfectly satisfied on this point in as far as I am concerned; and I am certain that Major Baillie too, on his part, aware of the friendship subsisting between the two Governments, and apprized of your Lordship's kind intentions towards me, will implicitly follow your instructions.

A true translation:

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the following letter be sent to the Resident at Lucknow, together with a copy of the English draft of the letter to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier below recorded.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant, inclosing the translation of a letter from his Excellency the Vizier, in reply to that addressed to his Excellency by the Governor-General under date the 7th of January.

2. Although the general tenor of that letter is sufficiently friendly, and professes a disposition on the part of the Vizier to listen to the advice of the British Government, the Governor-General in Council cannot but perceive that his Excellency entertains a decided repugnance to the particular plan of reform which, in consequence of his Excellency's own request, was submitted to him by the Earl of Minto, in his Lordship's letter of the 28th December 1810, and to any modification of it commensurate with the sentiments and wishes of the British Government on that important point. Every mode of argument, exhortation, and warning, every appeal to his Excellency's pride, judgment, and humanity, has been resorted to in vain, to obtain his acquiescence in that particular plan of reform which the British Government has considered and declared to be, according to its belief, the only effectual remedy for the disorders of his Excellency's administration. It is obvious, then, that no hopes can be entertained of success from any further endeavours short of compulsion, to carry that measure in the precise form in which it has hitherto been urged.

3. While the Governor-General in Council laments the perverse and unenlightened policy which induces the Vizier to reject that system of administration recommended to his adoption by the British Government, and which his own experience of its success in the Ceded Provinces might enable him correctly to appreciate, it does not appear to his Excellency in Council that, under a just and fair construction of the obligations of the alliance, we are entitled to proceed to the only measure of a compulsive nature which was ever suggested, namely, a renewed and direct demand, founded on the stipulations of the treaty,
accom-

accompanied by a menace of withholding the aid of the British troops in support of his Excellency's authority in case of his refusal.

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25 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

4. The arguments employed in Mr. Edmonstone's despatch of the 6th of July 1811, on a like occasion, are precisely applicable to the state at which the negotiation has now arrived, and they are strengthened and confirmed by the renewed failure of every attempt to influence the judgment or feelings of the Vizier. Even admitting that his Excellency were induced by a repetition of our demands, whether accompanied or not by such a menace, to give a reluctant assent to the measure generally, it is obvious that no vigilance or care would suffice to prevent him from frustrating it in detail, without a complete infraction of that part of the stipulation which provides that the reform shall be carried into effect by his Excellency and through his own officers.

5. The conclusion appears to the Governor-General in Council to be inevitable, namely, that the specific plan of reform proposed to the Vizier by Lord Minto must be relinquished, or insisted on as the alternative of a resolution on our part, which would amount to a dissolution of the existing relations between the two States.

6. The principles of justice and good faith, as well as of political expediency, appear to the Governor-General in Council to forbid the adoption of the latter course, and thus to impose on the British Government the necessity of desisting from the further prosecution of the object.

7. While, however, the relinquishment of the specific plan of reform, above referred to, is unavoidable, it by no means follows that the hope of introducing a reform into his Excellency's administration, from which considerable practicable benefit may arise, need be abandoned.

8. There is, indeed, no doubt that a plan abstractedly of inferior ability and efficacy, in which the Vizier shall cordially concur, will in practice produce the beneficial results contemplated by the British Government, better than the most judicious system of regulations which his Excellency might ostensibly adopt and secretly counteract.

9. The Governor-General in Council has the satisfaction to think that the tenor of the Vizier's letter to the Governor-General affords an opening for renewing the negotiation on this footing, and the Governor-General has accordingly addressed a reply to his Excellency, conceived in terms which are calculated to encourage his Excellency to open his mind to you, and to state his own views in such a manner as to lay a foundation for the discussion and eventual adoption of a plan, which though not embracing the full scope of the wise and beneficial system which has been recommended to him, may yet combine the advantages of a considerable practical improvement in the conduct of his administration and the condition of his subjects, with a cordial disposition on his own part to give it full effect.

10. An English copy of the Governor-General's letter is enclosed for your information, and you will receive the original from the Persian Secretary.

11. You will be pleased to accompany the delivery of the letter with a discourse, on your own part, adapted to the spirit of its contents, and endeavour, by every method of courtesy and conciliation, to engage his Excellency to throw off that reserve which must ever be an obstacle to the success of any plan, and appears to have been fostered by the controversial turn which the former discussions concerning the reform unfortunately but unavoidably assumed.

12. The footing on which it is desired by the Governor-General in Council that the negotiation should be recommenced, will not tend, as the former naturally did, to generate asperity both of sentiment and expression, which, unknown to the parties engaged in the discussion, must imperceptibly and unavoidably mix in a long protracted controversy, animated on one side by a sense of wounded pride, jealousy, and apprehension of the loss of independent authority, and of the means of gratifying the passion of cupidity, and, on the other, by the more honourable feelings of ardent and honest zeal for the reputation of the allied Governments and the interests of humanity.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

13. The object of your endeavours should be, and his Lordship in Council is satisfied will be, to acquire the Vizier's confidence, by shewing him that you are not seeking to force any particular measure on him, but are desirous of knowing what the Vizier himself suggests, that you may co-operate with him in the details, if the general system be calculated to meet the object in view, or state to him frankly the inefficacy of his plan if it be really delusive.

14. It is particularly desirable to abstain from the expression of any suspicions of the Vizier's sincerity. The indication of such a feeling must necessarily destroy all confidence, while, by awakening his pride and interest to the importance of acting up to the professions which he has made in his letter to the Governor-General, the ends of Government may be attained, if not to the utmost desirable extent, at least to such a degree as to ensure considerable practical benefit.

15. While the Governor-General in Council is prepared to give up the attempt to prevail on the Vizier to adopt the particular system of administration which Government was desirous that he should adopt, and to be satisfied with one of a more imperfect character, it will still be essential to maintain in its full force the right of the British Government to satisfy itself of the propriety of affording the aid of its troops in support of the authority of his Excellency or the officers of his Government. The objections to the abandonment or compromise of this right, under any circumstances short of the actual introduction into the Vizier's dominions of a plan of administration which would preclude the hazard of the British troops being called on to act in support of oppression and injustice, are too obvious to require to be stated.

16. The Governor-General in Council relies on the exertion of your utmost skill, address, and discretion, for the accomplishment of the views of Government, described in the foregoing paragraphs, and in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
25th March 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Ordered, That a letter from the Governor-General to the Vizier, in conformity to the terms of the following draft, be prepared in the office of the Persian Secretary, and transmitted to the Resident at Lucknow, to be by him presented to his Excellency.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 25th of March 1814.)

The answer which I have had the honour to receive from your Excellency to my letter has been truly gratifying. In the first place, I feel sincerely the eagerness with which your Excellency seized the opportunity of doing what you believed would be acceptable, in my contemplation, respecting the family of Hooscin Alee Khan; and I will say that I have real satisfaction in the measure adopted by your Excellency, because I know it must redound to your reputation.

I am equally thankful for what you are pleased to say on the subject of the reform in the administration of your affairs. When you meet me with such liberal frankness, I must be quite confident in your Excellency's disposition; and as I only wish the adoption of that spirit of government which has been recommended to you, I should ill meet your generous assurances, did I urge any particular provision to which you had shewn repugnance. The precise system of arrangements suggested to your Excellency by my predecessor was pressed upon your consideration, because we ourselves had experienced all the practical benefits of it in our territories, and we had reason to imagine that a noble pride would have made your Excellency remain unsatisfied, if you had found that you had made a settlement in your dominions less calculated to draw upon you the applause and blessings of your subjects than what exists in our provinces. If, in the acceptance of our counsel on that head, there be ought that

that can appear to your Excellency a derogation from your dignity, be persuaded it never could be our wish to subject you to a painful feeling. I do not attach exclusive importance to the special terms of the reform proposed, although I think it the most efficacious: all I wish from your Excellency's wisdom is, that you will explain fairly and undisguisedly to Major Baillie your objections to any of the intended articles, that you will condescend to state to him that which in your judgment would be preferable, and that you will methodise with him a plan that may be practically expedient. Only let us get rid of a necessity which cannot but be as mortifying to the feelings of your Excellency's as it is to ours: I mean the constant call for employing troops to extort the revenue, amid the clamour of the multitude against harshness and oppressions. Nothing can be more remote from the disposition of your Excellency than such extremities; and it is our perfect confidence in the rectitude of your mind in that respect, which has made us represent so repeatedly and so strongly the abuses committed by those acting under your orders, but pursuing a course utterly irreconcilable to the elevated dictates of your heart.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Mar. 1814.

Letter from
Governor-General.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 13th May 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch under date the 25th ultimo, in answer to my letter of the 8th ultimo, and conveying a copy of a letter to be addressed to his Excellency the Vizier by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General on the important subject of a reform in the administration of His Excellency's Government.

2. His Lordship in Council must be aware, as the records of my proceedings at this Court, in a number of instances demonstrate, that the object of my negotiation with the Vizier has never been exclusively that of obtaining his Excellency's acquiescence in the specific plan of reform recommended to his adoption by Lord Minto, the details of which were submitted to his Excellency by me in compliance with his particular desire, but on the contrary, that the alternative of devising a plan of his own has been uniformly in his Excellency's choice, and that he has been repeatedly and earnestly entreated to communicate his sentiments with freedom on every objectionable part of the system proposed by Lord Minto, under an assurance that they should all be withdrawn, and that the cordial concurrence of his Excellency in the establishment of any system of Government by which the condition of his subjects might be improved, and the revenue of his country collected, without the constant employment of our troops in support of rapacious Amils, was all that our Government desired.

3. It has hitherto appeared to my judgment, that the Vizier's repugnance to reform has been chiefly to the principle, not the plan or the details, of the system proposed to him, and that the exercise of justice and moderation in the settlement and collection of his revenues, especially as influenced by our advice, has been the object of his Excellency's aversion, more than any particular system or plan.

4. Under this view of the subject, which my experience would indicate to be just, I cannot with confidence predict any immediate beneficial result from the renewal of the negotiation with his Excellency on the footing prescribed by the Government; although his Lordship in Council may be assured that every faculty of my mind shall be exerted to the utmost possible extent, to give effect to his benevolent purposes, in the manner explained by my instructions.

5. One advantage, and an essential aid, will be afforded to my future negotiations with the Vizier, by the terms of his Lordship's letter to his Excellency, and of the instructions of the Government to me. The alternative of his Excellency's proposing a plan of his own for the better administration of his affairs and improving the condition of his subjects, although suggested repeatedly before in the course of my discussions with his Excellency, had never yet formed the

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Letter
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the subject of a direct address to the Vizier from the head of the British Government, and I am disposed to augur happy effects from the impression on his Excellency's mind of an offer so liberal and friendly, conveyed directly to his Excellency by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, more particularly as accompanied by a resolution to adhere to the spirit of the declaration which was formerly conveyed to his Excellency, regarding the employment of British troops in supporting the demands of his Aumils.

6. On my receipt of the Persian letter I shall accompany the delivery of it to the Vizier, with a suitable discourse on my own part adapted to the spirit of its contents, and I shall not fail to employ every power of conciliation that I possess for the accomplishment of the purposes described in it.

7. With a reference to the pension of Hoosein Alee Khan, I am concerned to have occasion to report to you that no payment of this pension has been made since the 15th of December last, and that his Excellency the Vizier has declared to me his intention of suspending future payments on this account till the amount of his former advances to Hoosein Alee Khan shall be liquidated. On my receipt and perusal of the Vizier's letter to Lord Moira, in which the personal attendance of Hoosein Alee Khan was required, I directed this respectable person to commence his attendance on the Vizier, with a view to his Excellency's satisfaction, and Hoosein Alee Khan has been regular in the performance of this duty to his sovereign for a period of nearly two months.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th April 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 May 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 27th May 1814.

Ordered, That the following private letter from the Resident at Lucknow to the Secretary be here recorded.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

My dear Adam :

I beg the favour of your reporting to Government that I presented Lord Moira's letter to the Vizier on Wednesday last, and made a suitable speech to his Excellency on the occasion. He complained of indisposition so much that I could not detain him long at the conference, nor could I urge him to make any communication in answer to the Governor-General's letter or to my remarks on the subject of it. He observed merely, after I had read the letter, that it contained happy tidings, and that he ascribed those happy tidings to me. I understand, however, that shortly after I quitted the palace, his Excellency made a handsome present to Hukeem Mehdee, to demonstrate his Excellency's sense of the fortunate termination to which the Hukeem's counsels have at length brought the question of reform.

The complaint by which his Excellency is occasionally afflicted does not by his own account affect his appetite or his vigour in the smallest degree, and the general opinion ascribes it to be a desire in his Excellency's mind of suspending all business with me till the approach of my Lord Moira to this country.

I have myself been very unwell since Wednesday last, and this is the first day that I could have sat up long enough to write to you what is here written.

There is no matter for an official letter, and therefore I trust that this will be received in its stead.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,
6th May 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.

To

To John Monckton, Esq., Persian Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you an arzee to the address of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General received from Mirza Hoosein Alec Khan, son of the late Nawaub Ameer-ood-Dowlah Hyder Beg Khan.

2. The principal subject of the arzee having been treated at considerable length in the 3d paragraph of my despatch to the Political Department, under date the 31st December last, it seems unnecessary to renew it on this occasion. The eventual demand by his Excellency the Vizier of the sums of money which were given or lent to Hoosein Alec Khan, for the purpose of subsisting his family till the ultimate decision of the question depending between the two Governments regarding him, unless compensated in the manner which he suggests in his arzee to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, must be productive of the greatest distress to this respectable person and to his family, and motives of humanity impel me to recommend the prayer of his petition to the favourable notice of the Government.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st March 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From Hoosein Alec Khan. (Received the 30th March 1814.)

Through the boundless kindness of the British Government, I have obtained from his Excellency the Vizier, in consideration of the claims of my late father, an allowance of 2,000 rupees per mensem; namely, 1,500 for myself, and 500 for the support of the other members of my father's family. Every due consideration has, indeed, been shewn towards me, and I am utterly unable to express my gratitude for the favours which I have received. May the Almighty long preserve your Lordship on the seat of power and greatness, to rule over the world and relieve the wants of mankind. I have transmitted for your Lordship a nuzzur of five gold mohurs, your acceptance of which will confer the highest honour on me.

From the tenor of some conversation which lately passed between his Excellency the Vizier and Major Baillie on the subject of my debt, it may be inferred that it is in contemplation to deduct the amount of my debt from my monthly allowance.

The real state of the case is as follows: His Excellency the Vizier has advanced money to me at different times to the amount of 10,000 rupees, as a loan to be repaid at my convenience; but, on the other hand, the gardens, bazars, and other valuable possessions of my late father, have been under attachment for a period of nearly ten years, and the revenues of them during that time have been received by his Excellency. It will, therefore, be an act of justice, and one which I confidently hope from the liberality of the two Governments will be carried into effect, if his Excellency the Vizier would pay to Akbur Alec Khan and myself, in equal shares, the amount which has been received from the above-mentioned possessions, in the same manner as the British Government paid to us, in equal proportions, the amount of arrears due on account of the compensation for the Sayer of Garhettie. This would enable me to discharge the debt in question.

Moreover, adverting to the conversation above-mentioned, I am apprehensive that hereafter I shall not experience the favour of his Excellency the Vizier: I therefore hope from your Lordship's kindness, that you will be pleased to give strong injunctions to whoever may be the Resident at this Court to afford me his assistance, in order to ensure to me the payment of my fixed stipend, and in all other affairs in which his interference may be required; so that having no cause of anxiety, I and my numerous family may be unceasingly occupied in prayers for the prosperity of the British Government. Further particulars will be communicated to your Lordship by Major Baillie.

A true translation :

(Signed) A. C. MOLONY,
Deputy Secretary.

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Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 May 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter from
Hoosein Alec Khan.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 May 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

1. A translation of the arzee addressed to the Governor-General by Hoosein Alee Khan, and transmitted to the Persian Secretary's Office with your letter of the 21st March, having been submitted to the Governor-General in Council, I am directed to communicate to you the following remarks and instructions on the subject of his representation, referring at the same time to your despatch to my address, under date the 28th ultimo, which was duly received and submitted to Government.

2. The resolution expressed by the Vizier to withhold payment of the stipend granted to Hoosein Alee Khan until the amount of the advance made to that person by his Excellency at various times shall be replaced, has excited the regret of the Governor-General in Council, who was led to hope, from the tenor of his Excellency's last letter to the Governor-General, that it would be paid without deduction from the date on which his Excellency had agreed that it should commence.

3. His Lordship in Council infers, from the tenor of your letter of the 28th of April and from Hoosein Alee Khan's arzee, that his Excellency does not mean to demand payment of the amount of the bond to Almass Alee Khan, mentioned in a former despatch from you under date the 31st December 1813, and that his Excellency's present views are limited to the recovery of the sums advanced for Hoosein Alee Khan's subsistence, amounting, as the latter states, to about 10,000 rupees. Although even this deduction is considered by the Governor-General in Council to be, under all the circumstances of the case, oppressive and unjust, and at variance with the spirit of his promise to the Governor-General, it is still a sum which may be paid by instalments by Hoosein Alee Khan without material pressure upon him.

4. The Governor-General in Council, however, is pleased to desire, that you will take some favourable opportunity of representing to the Vizier the disappointment which you fear may be experienced by the Governor-General in Council at this demand, and of insinuating the degree in which the enforcement of it may diminish the reputation of generosity and humanity which should attend his Excellency's late boon. On this ground you will endeavour to prevail on his Excellency to reconsider his resolution, if his Excellency cannot be prevailed on to remit the demand altogether, which however the Governor-General in Council trusts may be the case. You will endeavour to obtain his consent to an arrangement for the gradual liquidation of the debt by small instalments, which may still leave to Hoosein Alee Khan the means of comfortable subsistence on the remainder of the stipend, until the whole shall be paid off. The Governor-General in Council is not aware on what ground of equity and fairness his Excellency can oppose an arrangement of this nature.

5. Referring to your despatch of the 28th April, I am directed to inform you that the Governor-General in Council suspends any observations on that part of it which relates to the question of reform, until he shall receive a further communication from you, after the Vizier shall have made known the result of his deliberations on the subject of the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency of the 25th March.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
27th May 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
19 July 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 19th July 1814.

Extract Letter from J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow, to His Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Bart., K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c., dated 11th July 1814.

Para. 1. With genuine concern I announce to your Excellency in Council the sudden and unexpected demise of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, at eleven o'clock P.M. this instant, the 11th of July.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 26th July 1814.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir G. Nugent, Bart., K.B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of submitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the accompanying duplicate of a despatch which I have this day addressed to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
13th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 July 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Right Honourable Francis Earl of Moira, K.G., Governor-General, &c. &c. &c.

My Lord :

1. No event of material importance has occurred in this city since my despatch to your Lordship's address of the 12th instant at noon.*

2. My Hurkarras and news-writers, who were placed in attendance on the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah and Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, and in several quarters of the city, as well as with the principal commanders of troops in the service of this Government, have transmitted hourly reports to me of the most satisfactory nature; and though I have received no intelligence hitherto of the proceedings of Aumils at a distance, I have every reason to believe that the peace and tranquillity of the country have not suffered any interruption, and are by no means likely to be disturbed by the change in the head of the Government.

3. Under this promising aspect of affairs, I have addressed another letter to General Stafford, a copy of which is enclosed; and I have authorized the removal of the greatest part of our troops from the palace, leaving five companies of sepoys as a guard of honour to the Nawaub, and for the protection of the public treasury and other property of the State.

4. I returned from the palace myself at two o'clock in the afternoon of yesterday, after adopting every necessary precaution for the safety of his Highness's person, and for the regular exercise of his authority over all the branches of his household, in the manner suggested by myself and readily acquiesced in by his Excellency, with a view to satisfy and give confidence to the minds of his brothers, relations, and dependants.

5. I had the honour of breakfasting with his Excellency to-day, and found every thing at the palace as I wished it. The Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, however, evinced an extraordinary design of retaining the keys of the treasury which were formerly entrusted to his charge; and refused to deliver them to a person whom his eldest brother had deputed with my concurrence to receive them. This circumstance connected and combined with the former conduct of Shums-ood-Dowlah might have created a necessity for the adoption of measures which I was most anxious to avoid; and it is satisfactory to me to be enabled to add, that this necessity has been entirely superseded by the subsequent delivery of the keys to a native servant of my own, and by a message from the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah demonstrative of implicit submission, and of his reliance on the justice of our Government.

6. I have genuine pleasure in reporting to your Lordship to-day, what should properly have been mentioned to you yesterday, that the deportment of his Excellency the present Vizier in the elevated rank and station to which it has pleased Providence to raise him, through the aid of the British Government, and under the influence of its principles of justice, has since the moment of his father's demise been dignified and becoming in the extreme, and has evinced a sincere disposition to be guided in every respect by your Lordship's friendly advice, and to do nothing without my approbation till your Lordship's pleasure be known.

7. I had

* This despatch, as descriptive only of the Resident's arrangements for ensuring the peaceable accession of the new Vizier, has been omitted, as has also the answer to it, dated 23d July 1814, conveying the Governor-General's approbation of those arrangements.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. I had a conference with his Highness this morning which lasted from nine o'clock until one, and much of the public business which had lain over for several months, in consequence of his father's indisposition, was settled to our mutual satisfaction. Among the topics of discussion at our conference, the payment of the pension of Hoosein Alee Khan without deduction, and of the provisions for the dependants of Tuhseen Alee Khan, was cheerfully agreed to by the Nawaub. His liberality was also extended to the women and nominal children of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, whose clamours are happily at an end : and as a spontaneous act of grace and benevolence, a proposal which I had intended to submit for the release of many hundreds of prisoners confined in the jails of Lucknow unjustly, or without any adequate cause, was anticipated to my joy by the Nawaub, and will be carried into immediate effect. A most vexatious and oppressive tax which had recently been imposed by the Vizier on the transit of money in small sums for domestic purposes through the capital to interior districts of the country was abolished, at my suggestion, and some improvements in the police of the city were no sooner hinted at by me than they were cheerfully and eagerly acquiesced in.

8. In short, it appears to my judgment, on the strongest and most satisfactory grounds, that the elevation of the Nawaub Refaut-ood-Dowlah to the musnud is destined by Providence to prove a blessing to the hitherto greatly oppressed and unhappy people of Oude, and to every description of its inhabitants, as well as to facilitate in an extraordinary degree the accomplishment of your Lordship's just views with a reference to the Vizier's Government and to the future administration of its affairs.

9. I take this opportunity of submitting to the notice of your Lordship a copy and translation of a purwannah which was circulated to the Aumils and other public functionaries, civil and military, in Oude, on the accession of the present Nawaub to the musnud. A copy of my circular instructions to the commanding-officers of our troops at the several distant stations is also transmitted by this despatch.

10. An appropriate arzee has been addressed by the Nawaub Refaut-ood-Dowlah to her Highness the Bhow Begum, and forwarded in a letter to her Highness from me by a messenger whom I deputed for that purpose to Fyzabad.

11. I shall have the honour of addressing your Lordship again when any thing occurs to be reported, and I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
13th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

P. S. It occurs to me to submit for your Lordship's early consideration the propriety of his Highness the Nawaub's transmitting an arzee to the King of Dehli, announcing his accession to the musnud of Oude under the auspices of the British government, and conveying such other expressions as your Lordship's wisdom may prescribe.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major General Stafford, commanding the Troops in the Field, Cawnpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and I solicit your acceptance of my thanks for the readiness which you have been pleased to evince in complying with the suggestions which I offered to you.

2. I have now the satisfaction of informing you, that the authority of his Highness the Nawaub Refaut-ood-Dowlah would appear to be happily acknowledged and established, not only in his capital and its environs but also in the surrounding districts, and that I am no longer aware of a necessity for the measure which I suggested to you yesterday ; though it be still advisable,
in

in my judgment, to maintain the native troops at your station in a state of preparation for movement, till the end of the present month, or till I have the honour again of addressing you.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
26 July 1814.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Purwannah to the Aumils issued 12th July 1814.

Purwannah.

On the 22d of Rujub 1229 Hijjree, the Nawaub Wuzer-ool-Momalik Yumeen-ood-Dowlah Nazim-ool-Moolk Saadut Alee Khan Behadur Mobarez Jung departed from this transitory world, and I ascended the musnud of Oude, as my just and hereditary right, through the favour and support of the British Government.

You are therefore commanded to continue in discharge of the duties of your office, and to execute them with diligence and circumspection, confiding in the favour of the Presence, and omitting nothing that may tend to the prosperity of the public concerns. You will be particularly careful to prevent the Zemindars, or other seditious persons, from exciting disturbances in your district, and your strict observance of these orders will entitle you to particular favour.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Circular.

To the Commanding Officers of the Troops at Seetapore, Buhramgath, Secrora, Sultanpore, and Purtaubgurh.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I deem it to be proper to apprise you of the melancholy event of the death of his Excellency the late Nawaub Vizier, and the accession of his Excellency's eldest son, the Nawaub Refaut-ood-Dowlah, to the musnud. You will be pleased to announce the latter event to the public by a royal salute of artillery to be fired in honour of the occasion immediately on your receipt of this despatch.

2. The occurrences which have thus been announced to you cannot fail of themselves to suggest every possible degree of vigilance and caution to preserve the public tranquillity in the districts contiguous to your station. The troops to be holden in readiness to march at the shortest possible notice, and every circumstance of moment, or that may seem to be deserving of notice, to be regularly reported to me.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Bart., K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the accompanying duplicate of a despatch which I have this day addressed to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Right Honourable Francis Earl of Moira, K. G., Governor-General, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

My Lord :

1. The peace of this city and the tranquillity of the country around it continue to be perfectly undisturbed, and the happy effects of the measures regarding

Bengal Political
Consultation,
26 July 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

ing the police of the metropolis, and of some other subordinate arrangements which I suggested to his Highness the Nawaub, are already very apparent. The reports of the commanding-officers of our troops at the several stations in the interior, which have hitherto reached me, are also of a nature the most favourable.

2. I breakfasted with his Highness the Nawaub yesterday by appointment, to assist him in receiving visits of condolence from the two brothers of the King, who reside in the metropolis, and who offered their visit thus early in cheerful compliance with my request.

3. The ceremonies of the *seyoom*, or third day after the death of a Mussulman, were performed at the grave of the late Nawaub Vizier in the morning, and the principal personages and persons who attended at that ceremony were afterwards admitted to breakfast in the palace, and received assurances of protection and favour from me, in the name of the young Nawaub, and by his own particular desire.

4. His Highness seems desirous, indeed, of making your Lordship's representative at his Court the organ as well as the adviser of all the public measures of his administration, and the medium of conveying his wishes and commands to his brothers, relations, and dependants, as well as to the servants of his Government, addressing me frequently by the appellation of his uncle and protector, and entreating my assistance as indispensable to the successful conduct of his affairs.

5. When the princes and other visitors had taken their leave, his Highness and I had a conference for the transaction of public business which lasted till one in the afternoon; and almost all the minor questions that depended between the British Government and the late Vizier, and had heretofore proved so vexatious to both, have now been most happily adjusted, in the spirit of your Lordship's commands and to my entire satisfaction.

6. This morning I rode out with the Nawaub to Constantia, the house of the late General Martin, to assist his Highness in directing the arrangements proposed to be made for your Lordship's accommodation at Constantia, where he had heard me announce to his father that your Excellency wished to reside. We returned to the palace on the same elephant by the Nawaub's particular desire; and after breakfast his Highness held a *darbar*, for the purpose of conferring *khillats* of encouragement on his brothers, relations, and dependants, and on all the public servants of the State.

7. The *darbar* was universally attended by every individual who had been summoned to it, with the single exception of Shums-ood-Dowlah, who persisting with apparent sincerity in his professions of submission to our Government and of compliance with my wishes and desires, has declared his unalterable resolution of avoiding the presence of his brother, and disavowing any other superior than your Lordship or your representative at Lucknow.

8. It appears to my judgment at present, though my mind be not entirely made up on the subject, and cannot be so of course till I have personal communication with Shums-ood-Dowlah, that the removal of this Nawaub to some place within the Honourable Company's provinces may be ultimately found to be expedient, if not indispensable to the peace of his own mind and to his elder brother's satisfaction; but I do not feel the smallest apprehension of the public tranquillity being disturbed by his continued residence in this city, where he has no longer any partizans or adherents. Hukeem Mehdee, on whom he chiefly relied, has confirmed the opinion which I had long formed of this Aumil, by deserting the cause of his protector, and professing himself the willing slave of our Government. His professions and personal interests coinciding on the present occasion, I believe the former to be sincere, and have received them as such from him in person.

9. The retirement of Shums-ood-Dowlah from office may be considered to create a necessity, and affords a favourable opportunity for the appointment of an efficient minister of subordinate rank to conduct the details of this Government in

in concurrence with the Resident; and I shall take an early opportunity of ascertaining the sentiments of the Nawab on this important question, and submitting them with my own opinion for your Lordship's mature consideration.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 July 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

10. The highly becoming conduct of the Nawab Nuseer-ood-Dowlah from the moment of his father's demise, and particularly his professions of attachment to the British Government, on the sincerity of which I have reason to rely, combined with the knowledge which he possesses of such of the concerns of this Government as have hitherto been entrusted to his charge, suggest the expediency of his continuance in the discharge of his present duties, for which he seems sufficiently qualified, and which his brother seems disposed to consign to him.

11. Nothing further occurs to me at present as deserving of particular report or requiring your Lordship's consideration. I deem it proper to submit to your notice the enclosed copy of a letter which I addressed to Colonel D'Auvergne, commanding the troops at this station, on the occasion of my authorizing his recall of the British troops from the palace.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
15th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Colonel D'Auvergne, commanding the Troops at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. The important and momentous object, for the successful accomplishment of which I considered it to be my duty to require your attendance with the troops under your command at the palace of his Excellency the Vizier, being now happily effected by the elevation of the Nawab Refaut-ood-Dowlah to the musnud, and the establishment of his Highness's authority in the city and neighbouring districts, you will be pleased to withdraw the troops to cantonments, leaving five companies of sepoys as a guard of honour to the prince, and to protect the public property of the State which is deposited in apartments of the palace.

2. I take this opportunity to convey to you the high sense which I entertain of your zealous and judicious conduct in the command of the troops at Lucknow on the recent momentous occasion, and to solicit your acceptance of my best and most grateful acknowledgements for the essential aid and support which your conduct has afforded to my measures.

3. You will be pleased to convey, in my name, to Lieutenant-Colonel Lyons, your second in command, and to all the other officers and soldiers, the expression of my entire approbation of their conduct, and of the exemplary discipline and good order which they evinced while employed on duty at the palace.

4. The just tribute of approbation and applause of the general state of discipline of the troops under your command has been already conveyed to you, on more than one occasion at Lucknow, by the most respectable military authorities; and it may be gratifying to your feelings, though unimportant to your professional reputation, to be assured of my entire and cordial concurrence in the sentiments expressed by those authorities.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
13th July 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 9th August 1814.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government.

Sir:

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of his Excellency the Vice-President in Council, the accompanying copy of instructions addressed this

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 Aug. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 Aug. 1814.

this day, under the authority of his Excellency the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to his despatches dated the 13th and 15th instant, as also his subsequent despatches dated 18th and 23d instant, containing a continuation of his reports of events and transactions at that Court since the demise of the late Vizier and the establishment of his successor on the musnud of Oude.

I have, &c.

Monghier,
1st August 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches dated the 13th and 15th instant, containing a continuation of your report of events and transactions at Lucknow since the demise of the late Vizier and the establishment of his successor on the musnud of Oude.

2. The accomplishment of the latter event without the slightest interruption of the public tranquillity, and the general satisfaction with which it appears to have been attended, are circumstances which have afforded a high degree of gratification to the mind of his Excellency the Governor-General, while the favourable disposition and character of the new prince, manifested in the early acts of his Government, and his apparent determination to regulate his public conduct by the salutary counsels of the British Government, afford the most flattering prospects of the wisdom, prosperity, and success of his future administration.

3. The Governor-General receives the early and willing compliance of his Excellency with the wishes of the British Government, on several of the questions which were so long and fruitlessly agitated with the late Vizier, as a strong and gratifying proof of his friendship and regard for the Honourable Company.

4. I have already had the honour to signify to you, in general terms, the approbation with which your conduct and proceedings during the late crisis have been viewed by the Governor-General. His Lordship directs me to repeat the assurances of his high approbation of the vigilance, foresight, and circumspection of the measures adopted by you at the moment of the late Vizier's demise for the preservation of the public tranquillity, which must speedily have checked and overawed any disposition which might have existed to insurrection, or opposition to the establishment of the legitimate successor. Your personal exertions at the same time and subsequently, as reported in your despatches, equally demand the expression of his Lordship's approbation.

5. I now proceed to state to you the observations which have occurred to the Governor-General on a point which appears to his Excellency to be of most urgency, in point of time, among those adverted to in your despatches, namely, the expediency of his Excellency the Vizier addressing an arzee to his Majesty the King of Delhi, announcing his accession to the musnud of Oude under the auspices of the British Government.

6. You will have observed, that in the letters of condolence and congratulation which the Governor-General has transmitted to the Nawaub Refaut-ood-Dowlah, his Lordship has addressed him by the title of Vizier of the empire. In addressing the Nawaub by that title, his Lordship was influenced both by his conviction of the propriety of that prince's immediate assumption of a title which has become virtually hereditary in his family without awaiting the result of any communication with the Court of Delhi, and by the corresponding line of conduct recommended to the late Vizier on his accession. His Lordship presumes that the Nawaub Refaut-ood-Dowlah will have assumed the title of Vizier.

7. It will be proper, nevertheless, as an act of courtesy, for his Excellency to address an arzee to the King, announcing his elevation to the musnud and honours of his ancestors, under the aid of the British Government, but carefully avoiding any expression which will bear the construction of seeking or acknowledging the necessity of his Majesty's confirmation of his title.

8. It

8. It may be expected that the King will proffer the grant of the title of Vizier in the usual forms ; in which case it is not judged expedient that his Excellency should decline it. After what is above stated, it would be superfluous to add any injunctions regarding the care and attention to be observed in drawing up his Excellency's letter to the King, which will, of course, be done in concert with you.

Bengal Political
Consultations
9 Aug. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

9. The Governor-General has derived peculiar satisfaction from observing the perfect cordiality which subsists between you and the Nawaub, and the confidence which his Excellency reposes in your friendship and advice. His Lordship is assured that it will be a primary object of your endeavours to preserve that cordiality and confidence unimpaired ; and the judgment which his Lordship has been enabled to form with regard to the character of the Vizier from the first acts of his Government permits his Lordship to indulge a hope, that he will continue to perceive his own true interest and the welfare of his people to be best consulted by a liberal, frank, and ingenuous attention to the counsels of the British Government, conveyed through its representative at Lucknow, delivered with firmness, but with respect and moderation, and with invariable regard to the relative situations of the parties, and to the limits of independence on the one side and control on the other, prescribed by the treaty and by the result of the subsequent negotiation at Lucknow. By a course of conduct framed on the foregoing principles, aided by your zealous, able, and cordial co-operation and advice, his Excellency the Vizier cannot fail to obtain the love of his people, the respect of surrounding States, and the approbation of his own conscience.

10. Since the preceding paragraphs were written, your despatches dated respectively the 18th and 23d ultimo, have been received. The submission of the Nabob Shums-ood-Dowlah to the authority of the Vizier, and the reconciliation effected between the two brothers, have afforded his Excellency great satisfaction. Any observations which may be suggested by this event, or which may occur to his Excellency generally concerning the conduct and situation of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, are reserved for a future occasion.

I have, &c.

Monghier,
1st August 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 16th September 1814.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 Sept. 1814.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir G. Nugent, Bart. K. B., Vice-President
in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the accompanying duplicate of a despatch which I have this day addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
2d September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

To John Adam, Esq, Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. Be pleased to submit to the notice of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General the enclosed copy of a letter (circular) which I have addressed to the commanding officers of the stations of Seetapore, Sultanpore, and Purtaubgurh, in compliance with the requisition of his Excellency the Vizier, for the purpose of supporting his Excellency's measures of reform in the assessment and collection of his revenues, which were announced by his proclamation to commence with the ensuing Fusly year, as reported in my despatch to the Governor-General under date the 20th of July last.

7 T

2. Considerable

Bengal Political
Correspondence,
16 Sept. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. Considerable balances of revenue for the current and preceding Fusly years having been stated by his Excellency the Vizier, on the authority of unquestionable documents submitted to my personal investigation, to be justly due to his Government in several districts of his dominions, particularly in those districts which are contiguous to the stations of Sultanpore and Purnauburh, I have deemed it to be my duty to offer the support of our commanding-officers at those stations, and eventually the aid of our troops for the recovery of those balances of revenue; and the measures which I have adopted with this view, as detailed in the accompanying copies of my correspondence with Colonel Frith and Major Richards, will, I trust, receive the approbation of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

3. I take this opportunity of apprising you, for his Lordship's information, that a battalion of regular sepoy, and also a battalion of nujeebs in the service of his Excellency the Vizier, which were stationed in the district of Khyrabad, having mutinied against their officers and the local authority of the Government in the district to which they belonged, and proceeded in a disorderly manner to Lucknow, have been, at my suggestion, dismissed from his Excellency's service, and required to surrender their arms, with the ordnance and military stores attached to the regular battalion. I am happy to be enabled to add, that the measure of the disbandment of those corps, recommended by me to the Vizier, has been carried into complete effect in the most satisfactory manner, without any material resistance on the part of the mutinous troops, and unattended by the smallest disturbance in the city.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

Sir:

1. My letter (circular) under date the 22d ultimo, and the proclamation conveyed by that letter, will have necessarily served to apprise you of the general nature of the arrangements proposed by his Excellency the Vizier for the settlement and collection of his revenues.

2. I have now the honour to inform you, that with a view to carry those arrangements into effect, his Excellency has been pleased to appoint the undermentioned persons Ameens to the several districts of his dominions which are contiguous to the station of Seetapore, and comprehended in the Zillah of Khyrabad, which remains, as heretofore, under the general superintendence and management of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, late Aumil of Khyrabad and Mohumdee, viz.

Districts.	Ameens.
Khyrabad	Rufee Alee Khan.
Khyree	Meer Muhmood.
Koondree, &c.	Jungulshore.
Belgram	Bukhtul
Lahurpore	Sheikh Wazeer Mohummud.
Dhorereh	Ahmad Alee Khan.
Gopamow, &c.	Aga Jaun.
Burwar	Aboo Taleb Khan.
Bhurwareh	Syed Mohummud Khan.

3. Those Ameens have been severally furnished with explicit and particular instructions for the guidance of their conduct in preparing and submitting a scheme of a just settlement of the revenue for the ensuing Fusly year, and they have been directed to proceed to their districts, with the least practicable delay.

4. I transmit for your information and guidance the enclosed copy and translation of a second circular edict, under the seal of his Excellency the Vizier, addressed to the revenue officers and landholders of the districts to which Ameens have been appointed; commanding their attendance on the Ameens, and conveying

conveying such further orders as seem necessary for the speedy and successful accomplishment of the objects committed to those Ameens.

Bengal, Fallacy
Constitutions,
16 Sept 1814.

5. You will be pleased to afford your support to the persons above-named in the proper discharge of their duties, and to comply with their eventual requisitions for the aid of detachments of the troops, in such cases as may appear to require it, with a view to maintain their authority in the districts committed to their charge.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

6 A separate letter of introduction to your notice has been given to each of the principal Ameens above-mentioned, who will present the letter in person or transmit it by a confidential agent, to be deposited for the purpose of conveying to you every necessary degree of information regarding the state of the district at large, and a particular explanation regarding the circumstances which may eventually appear to require the employment of the British troops in support of the authority of the Ameen.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th August 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Proclamation under the Great Seal of his Excellency the Vizier.

Proclamation.

Be it known to the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, Putwarries, cultivators, Ryots, and peasantry at large of pergunnah, That whereas the prosperity and happiness of my subjects must ever form the leading objects of my care, I have, therefore, at this auspicious season, determined to introduce in my dominions a system of future arrangement, by which the Zemindars and cultivators being secure from the unjust exactions of Aumils and farmers, may with confidence proceed in the improvement and cultivation of their lands, paying the just revenues of Government on the real produce of their lands agreeably to an established kistbundee, without failure or delay, and be in no ways liable to the tyranny, oppression, or extortion of any farmers or Tehsildars, that thus the revenues and resources of the country may be yearly increased, and the cultivation of the lands be so extended and improved, that in process of time no uncultivated land shall remain in my dominions, and that the frequent insurrections and commotions by which the landholders and peasantry are ruined, the expenses of the Government increased, and general disorder excited, may be now and for ever at an end.

With a view to carry this salutary system into effect, I have nominated and appointed Ameen of the district of, who will immediately proceed to that district; and having assembled all the landholders, Malgozars, cultivators, and others, and inspired confidence in their minds by apprizing them of my benevolent intentions, will commence a diligent inquiry into the actual state of every town and village in the muhaul. He will demand from the Chowdries, Canoongoes, Zemindars, and Putwarries of the district, a true and accurate description of each village and estate (which the Ameen will afterwards visit), of its waste and cultivated lands, of the condition of its inhabitants and peasantry, and the causes of their actual condition. He will further require from those officers the several revenue papers which are specified in a separate list with which all the Ameens have been furnished, and he will immediately submit to the Presence the result of his investigation, with the several documents alluded to, with the least practicable delay.

You are, therefore, hereby commanded to attend the aforesaid Ameen immediately on his arrival within your district, and to convey to him every information that he may require regarding the state and condition of the district, without the smallest partiality or reserve, and to produce and deliver to the Ameen every document which he may demand from you, without any hesitation or delay, being obedient to his orders in all things, and considering his favourable or unfavourable report as advantageous or injurious to your interests. You are at the same time strictly prohibited from giving or offering to the Ameen, or to any of his deputies or servants, directly or indirectly, the smallest nuzzur,

Bengal Political
Correspondence,
16 Sept. 1814.

nuzzur, bribe, or douceur, on any pretext whatever. Consider these as the positive orders of the Presence, and act accordingly in every respect.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, and to Major Richards, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Of the same tenor and date as the preceding, and with the exception of Amceens and districts as follows, *viz.*

PURTAUBGURH.

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Amceens.</i>
Purtaubgurh, &c.	Meer Imam Alec.
Duleepore, &c.	Meer Furzund Hoosein.
Gurh Ahmethee, &c.	Nowneit Race.
Kewace, &c.	The son of Meer Imam Alec.

SULTANPORE.

Sultanpore, &c.	Mirza Hadee.
Hussunpore, &c.	Ekram Ahmud Khan.
Jugdeespore, &c.	Ahmed Alec Khan.
Akburpore, &c.	Khajah Sukhawut Oolla Khan.
Aldemow, &c.	Hafez Alec Khan.
Issowlee, &c.	Lalla Jeah Loll.

True copies :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for your information and guidance, the enclosed copies of a correspondence which has recently passed between me and the commanding-officer of the troops at Sultanpore, on the subject of the refractory conduct of certain landholders in the district of Akburpore, and others, contiguous to the station of Sultanpore, who have resisted the authority of the Vizier's officers of revenue for a period of several years, and are now in balance to the State to a very considerable amount.

2. As Major Richards has reported his opinion that a military force attended by a battering train may be required eventually to coerce the defaulting landholder, Surroopdoom Sing, and some others in the district of Akburpore, it seems proper that you be prepared to comply with the requisition of Major Richards for the aid of the battering train at your station, if circumstances shall appear to require, and the state of your own district admit of, the employment of this part of your force at a distance, after the conclusion of the periodical rains, or about the middle of the ensuing month.

3. But I am disposed at present to rely on the success of Major Richards' exertions, under the instructions which I have issued to that officer, for the accomplishment of the objects in view, and the voluntary submission of the landholders to the just authority of their sovereign, without having any recourse to more active military operations.

4. You will be pleased to correspond with Major Richards on the general subject of this despatch, and to favour me with your opinion occasionally on the result of that officer's proceedings, as it may tend to supersede or require the immediate or early employment of a portion of the force under your command in support of Major Richards' measures.

I have, &c,

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Lucknow,
1st September 1814.

To

To Major Richards, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Sir :

1. The arzee of Surroopdoom Sing, transmitted in your letter of the 9th instant, appearing to his Excellency the Vizier to evince a persistence on the part of that Talookadar in the refractory and rebellious conduct described in the Aumil's arzee, and a resolution to withhold the just dues of the State, which he has acknowledged to a considerable amount in his own arzee to the Vizier, it has, therefore, been deemed expedient by his Excellency to issue another and more peremptory mandate to Surroopdoom Sing, directing him to pay into your hands, on account of the Government, without delay, the sum of Sicca Rupees 76,251. 5. 6. which he has expressly acknowledged to be due by him, and which you will be pleased to demand and receive from the Talookadar and remit by hoondies, or transmit in specie to me under the charge of a proper escort, to be delivered to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. Should the Talookadar refuse to make payment of the amount of this just and unquestionable demand, which proceeds on his own acknowledgment, you will be prepared to take the necessary measures for enforcing it, by seizing the person of the defaulter and sending him a prisoner to Lucknow; but as it is alike the wish of his Excellency the Vizier and my own to avoid measures of coercion, and to recover the dues of the State by means of conciliation and persuasion, you will be pleased to use your best endeavours to recover the amount of this demand from Surroopdoom Sing, by persuading him of the folly as well as injustice of withholding the revenues of the Government, which must inevitably tend to his ruin, by dispossession of the lands which he holds and perpetual banishment from the country, if a British force be employed against him.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th August 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to transmit an arzee for his Excellency the Vizier received with the accompanying letter to my address from Surroopdoom Sing. With a reference to that part of your letter of the 15th instant regarding the seizure of Surroopdoom Sing in the event of his refusing to pay the amount due from him, I think it necessary to state, that such a measure could only be effected by detaching a force for the reduction of the ghurry in which he resides. There are, it appears, three ghurries in his zemindary. Should you consider it expedient to authorize a force being detached for the above purpose, will you have the goodness to apprise me as early as possible, as it will be necessary for me, conformably to General Orders of the 8th of November 1806, to apply for battering guns to accompany the detachment.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
25th August 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

To Major Richards, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore,
(30th August 1814.)

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 25th instant, with its enclosures.

2. The instructions conveyed to you by my despatch of the 27th instant, will, I trust, supersede the necessity for proceeding to measures of extremity with regard to Surroopdoom Sing, whose attendance on the Ameen of his district may lead to a satisfactory adjustment of the demands of the Government against him and against the subordinate landholders, whom he describes as withholding the revenue.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 Sept. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter from
Major Richards.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
16 Sept. 1814.

3. In case of the failure of Surroopdoom Sing, or any other landholder in the district, to comply with the terms of the proclamation, by attending on and obeying the Ameen, you will, of course, be prepared to coerce him, and the battering train at Purtaubgurh will, if necessary, be detached to your assistance: but you will be pleased to use every effort of conciliation and persuasion with the Zemindars, to induce their submission to the Ameen, and preclude the ruinous consequence to themselves, and public inconvenience to our Government, of the employment of troops to coerce them.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
30th August 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Richards, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Sir:

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you another purwannah which his Excellency the Vizier has been pleased, at my suggestion, to address to the refractory Talookadar, Surroopdoom Sing.

2. In transmitting this purwannah to the Talookadar, you will be pleased to caution him in the strongest terms against the ruinous consequences which must inevitably result to him in the case of his still pertinaciously withholding the just revenues of the Government and delaying to attend the Ameen who has recently proceeded to his district.

3. Another purwannah under the seal of his Excellency the Vizier, addressed to Surrupjeet Sing and Duljeet Sing, Talookadars of Chandypore-Bidhur, is also transmitted by this despatch, and you will be pleased to forward it by a careful and intelligent messenger, with a message to the defaulting Zemindars of the same purport with the foregoing, and in suitable terms from yourself.

4. The present season of the year renders the employment of a military force, and more particularly of a battering train, extremely inconvenient and inexpedient, if it can possibly be avoided, and it is my desire, at all events, to postpone the adoption of those measures till the close of the periodical rains and commencement of a more favourable season. Colonel Frith will, however, be instructed to hold the battering train at his station in readiness to proceed in the direction of Akburpore on the 15th of the ensuing month, should circumstances appear to require it; and you will be pleased to communicate to Colonel Frith, as well as to report to me, the result of your further proceedings under the instructions now and formerly conveyed to you.

5. I rely with confidence on the exertion of your best endeavours to accomplish the objects of this despatch, and to ensure the submission of the landholders in all the districts around you to the just authority of the Government, by means of conciliation and persuasion, without any necessity for recourse to active military operations, which it is particularly desirable to avoid.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 Sept. 1814.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 27th September 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir G. Nugent, Bart. K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting for your Excellency in Council's information the accompanying duplicate of a despatch which I have this day addressed to the Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Bengal Political
Consultations
27 Sept. 1814.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 2d instant, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for his Lordship's further information, the enclosed copies of letters which I have this day received from the commanding-officers of our troops at the stations of Sultanpore and Pustaughur.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th September 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Major Richards.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant and enclosures, and shall strictly attend to the instructions therein contained. I shall accordingly use every measure of conciliation and persuasion to attain the objects in view; but there appears every reason to expect that military operations will be unavoidably necessary against some of the Zemindars who have ghurries.

The relief for this post will probably arrive in the midst of the operations; a circumstance likely to occasion some delay and impediment in carrying into speedy effect the new arrangements adopted by his Excellency the Vizier, especially as only five companies come to this post in the first instance: As it appears that the early introduction of the new system resolved on by his Excellency the Vizier is of importance, should you judge it advisable, on application from you to head-quarters, the relief of this corps might of course be postponed till next season.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
3d September 1814.

(Signed)

G. RICHARDS,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

Sir :

I had the honour to receive your letter of the 27th ultimo, with enclosures, some days ago; and as I learn that the Ameens therein mentioned are near at hand, I have this day made public his Excellency's orders enjoining the immediate attendance on the Ameens, on their arrival in the several districts, of the Zemindars and others, as required therein. On the arrival of the Ameens they shall have every assistance in my power in the execution of their duty, and the aid of troops when it may be deemed necessary.

The proposed settlement, however, is so very advantageous to the Zemindars and other landholders, that I trust they will all meet his Excellency's benevolent intentions with cheerfulness and gratitude, and render the aid of any military force unnecessary.

I have, &c.

Purtaughur,
5th September 1814.

(Signed)

R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir G. Nugent, Bart., K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 2d instant, I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's further information, the enclosed copies of letters received from Colonel Frith and Major Richards, and a copy of my letter to Major Richards under date the 12th instant.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
13th September 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 Sept. 1814.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant with its enclosures, relating to the refractory conduct of Surroopdoom Sing, and other Zemindars in the Akburpore district, and directing the battering train to be in readiness to move against them after the rains, in case they should continue to resist the authority of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. I have accordingly given directions for the battering train at this post to prepare to move ; but as there are no artillerymen, lascars, draft bullocks, or carriages attached to them, it will be necessary that the officer commanding the first division of the field army should order what may be required from Elahabad when the season for moving arrives. Annexed is a memorandum of the details of men and cattle, &c. which will be wanted. I have written to Major Richards for information concerning Surroopdoom Sing and the other refractory Zemindars, and in the mean time will use my best endeavours, in concert with the Major, to persuade these people to submit peaceably to his Excellency's authority ; and as it is obviously their interest to do so, I hope we may prove successful.

I have, &c.

Purtaubghur,
8th September 1814.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding.

Memorandum required for two Eighteen-pounders, two Twelve-pounders, and two Five-and-a-half-Inch Mortars.

3 serjeants, 3 corporals, 6 gunners, 36 matrosses, with the complement of gun-lascars, 150 draft bullocks, and 210 hackeries. The hackeries were provided by the Nawaub when the train was last employed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding.

Letter from
Major Richards.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour herewith to transmit an arzee addressed to his Excellency the Vizier by Surroopdoom Sing received with the accompanying letter to my address. It appears that Surroopdoom Sing is desirous of the assistance of a detachment from this post, to enable him to effect the payment of the arrears of revenue, and he promises to join with his followers any force that may be detached for that purpose. I have received intelligence from the Ameen of Hassenpore, that Beekum Sah, the Talookadar of Rampoor, has invested a place in that neighbourhood, at present occupied by a party in the service of his Excellency the Vizier, and that he seems disposed to attempt the establishment of his own authority in that quarter. I have accordingly, in conformity with the tenor of your instructions, addressed a letter to Beekum Sah, to endeavour to deter him from his rebellious practices, and to recall him to a just sense of the obedience he owes to his Excellency's Government. I have also pointed out to him the advantages to himself of his attending on the Ameen and conforming to the new system to be introduced, and have called his attention to the ruinous consequences which must eventually attend his persisting in his present contumacious conduct. In the event of the Ameen requiring the immediate assistance of a detachment, I feel myself precluded from granting it at present, with reference to that part of your letter of the 1st instant which directs me to postpone the employment of a military force till the close of the rains. However, on this point I request the favor of your further instructions, and entertain a hope that the objects in view may in a great degree be attained by conciliatory measures. These, however, must necessarily be interrupted by the relief of this corps, as the business will then probably be required to be commenced on afresh. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, I thought it right, in my letter of the 2d instant, to state that as only five companies were in the first instance to come to this post, and particularly as this relief would occur

occur in the midst of the operations, considerable impediment, inconvenience, and delay might occur, and that your application to head-quarters, if made immediately, might of course occasion, without inconvenience, the relief of this corps being postponed till next season. I have thought it my duty particularly to advert, in this and my former letters, to the state of affairs in this quarter, that no blame may be eventually imputed to me for not having made a full and early report.

Bengal Political Consultations, 27 Sept. 1814.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
10th September 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

To Major Richards, commanding at Sultanpore.

Sir:

Letter from Resident at Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated the 10th and 11th instant.

2. The conduct of the Talookadar of Rampoorra has been obviously such as to require the immediate employment of a force to expel him from the ghurry which he has occupied, and to seize his person if it be possible; and if the nature of his position and strength of the ghurry of Rampoorra be such as to admit of your attacking him successfully with the force now at your disposal, without the aid of a battering-train, I request that you will be pleased to adopt the necessary measures for this purpose with the least practicable delay, provided the refractory Talookadar shall not have evacuated the ghurry and returned to a proper sense of his duty before your receipt of this despatch.

3. On the receipt of the arzee of Surroopdoom Sing, I shall have the honour of addressing you hereafter. The circumstances which you have stated with a reference to the relief of the troops, are highly deserving of notice, and I shall take an early opportunity of submitting them to the consideration of the Commander-in-Chief.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
12th September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th October 1814.

Bengal Political Consultations, 11 Oct. 1814.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Baronet, K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir:

Letter from Resident at Lucknow.

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the enclosed duplicates of two letters and enclosures which were yesterday forwarded by me to the Secretary to the Governor-General, in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
27th September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Governor-General.

Sir:

Letter from Resident at Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 13th instant, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of letters which have more recently passed between me and the commanding-officer of the troops at Sultanpore.

2. These letters, though they describe a degree of resistance, in the first place, on the part of a few of the landholders in the districts of Sultanpore and Akburpore, to the just views of this Government in the reform of the revenue department

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11 Oct. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

ment, or rather to the demand of arrears which those landholders had hitherto withheld and are naturally unwilling to discharge, yet they indicate at the same time that the diffidence evinced by the principal landholders, with regard to the system of reform and to their personal attendance on the Ameens, has a reference chiefly to the misconduct of the former revenue officers and the oppression of former times, and they afford a prospect of salutary results when this diffidence shall be obviated by the conciliatory measures in progress.

3. In the districts of Purtaubgurh and Behar, and in all the other districts of the country to which Ameens have been recently deputed, the progress of the measures of reform would appear to be totally unimpeded and to afford universal satisfaction.

4. I await with some degree of anxiety, but with entire and perfect reliance on the wisdom and justice of my Lord Moira, a communication of his Lordship's sentiments and commands on the subjects of my several despatches having reference to the measures of reform.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
26th September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Major Richards.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, and to report that I this morning detached four companies of the second battalion of the Twenty-second regiment, under the command of Captain Blackney, towards Rampoor. I enclose a copy of my instructions to that officer. The ghurry of Rampoor is represented to be in a dismantled state; but should it prove otherwise I have directed Captain Blackney to refrain from making any attack on it without further instructions from me, as in that case, conformably with General Orders of the 8th of November 1806, it will be necessary to apply for the battering train. Although my letter to Beekum Sah, pointing out the ruinous consequences to himself of his rebellious conduct, had not the desired effect of inducing him to retire from the ghurry of Rampoor, I have yet hopes that on the approach of Captain Blackney's detachment he will evacuate it without resistance. It appears to me that the presence of a detachment in the district will, of itself, tend to establish the authority of the Ameen, by operating as a check on the neighbouring Zemindars who may be inclined to be refractory.

With regard to that part of my letter of the 10th instant having reference to the relief of the troops at this post, I thought it right to mention that your application to head-quarters might, of course, occasion the relief of this corps being postponed till next year without any inconvenience; especially if the application were made immediately, as the corps from which the five companies are to be detached for the relief of this post commences its march from Keitah on the 1st of next month.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
15th September 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter from
Major Richards.

To Captain Blackney, commanding a Detachment from the Second Battalion of Twenty-second Regiment Native Infantry.

Sir:

You will proceed at three o'clock to-morrow morning with the detachment under your command towards Rampoor, for the purpose of compelling Beekum Sah, the refractory Talookadar of that place, to evacuate the ghurry of that name, from which he has forcibly caused the troops of his Excellency the Vizier to retire.

On

On your arrival at Rampoorra, should Beekum Sah not immediately evacuate the ghurry and return to a sense of his duty, you will employ the force under your orders to expel him from it, and if possible secure his person: provided, however, that the nature of his position and the strength of the ghurry be such as to admit of your attacking him successfully with the force under your command, and without any risk whatever of failure.

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The ghurry is represented to be in a dismantled state; but in case you find it otherwise, or that any defensive works have been constructed, you will immediately report the circumstances to me, and on no account in such case make any attack without further instructions.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
14th September 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

To Major Richards, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore, Oude.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 12th instant, with a reference to the conduct of Surroopdoom Sing, and the tenor of that person's arzee to the address of his Excellency the Vizier, I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed translations of a letter and arzee which I have recently received from his Excellency, and which tend to establish a conviction of the falsehood of Surroopdoom Sing's statement, and of his being leagued and united in rebellion with Zorāwur Sing and other Zemindars, against whom he has solicited the assistance of a detachment of the British troops.

2. Under these circumstances, it is obvious that the dispersion of the force of Surroopdoom Sing and the reduction of the fortresses in his possession must be an object of considerable importance to the tranquillity of the district of Akburpore, and should be undertaken by the troops under your command at as early a period as may be practicable after the conclusion of the periodical rains, unless the immediate suppression and punishment of Beekum Sah, which you were eventually instructed to undertake by my letter of the 12th instant, and your own and Colonel Frith's admonitions to Surroopdoom Sing, shall have occasioned that person's submission to the just authority of the Government before the battering train can be prepared to move from Purtaubgurh.

3. But I shall have the honour of addressing you again on this subject when a report of your operations against the refractory landholder, Beekum Sah, shall be received.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
15th September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 14th September 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have received the arzee which you transmitted to me from Surroopdoom Sing, soliciting the punishment of Zorāwur Sing and Runjeet Sing.

A copy of an arzee from Gholaum Zamin, representing the rebellious conduct of Zorāwur Sing and Surroopdoom Sing, is sent enclosed for your information, and will enable you to compare the statement in the latter's arzee with the true account of the conduct of that person and the other, who are united in their rebellion against the Government and depredations against the neighbouring Zemindars.

These persons have, for three years past, been united in their rebellious practices and in withholding the revenues of the Government.

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Letter
from the Vizier.

The Arzee of Gholaum Zamin, dated the 20th Ramzaan 1229, 6th September 1814.

Zorāwur Sing and Surroopdoom Sing, Talookadars of Meopoor in Aldemow, who have withholden the just dues of the Government for the last three years, and have otherwise been refractory and rebellious, proceeded together, on the 17th Ramzaan, with about 600 armed followers, to the Elakas of Behadur Sing, Zemindar of Churnypetty, purgunnah Mujhaura in Akburpore, where they attacked the above-mentioned Zemindar, killed one and wounded another of his servants, carried away the cattle, and plundered the property of the Ryots, and established their own authority in the villages of Luckeechundpore, Kuthuree, and Muckoopore in the above talooka.

The Ryots of purgunnahs Ainsun and Mujhaura are greatly alarmed by their proceedings; and some other ill-disposed persons, encouraged by the success of Surroopdoom Sing and his associates, seem now disposed to unite with them and to withhold the revenue of the Sircar.

These circumstances are represented to your Excellency, that the necessary orders may be issued.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Major Richards.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour herewith to transmit a copy of a letter of this date from Captain Blackney, reporting the evacuation of the ghurry of Rampoor by Beekum Sah. I have directed Captain Blackney to remain encamped at Rampoor until further orders, delivering over the ghurry to the troops of his Excellency the Vizier which may be sent by the Ameen to occupy it.

I have desired Captain Blackney, in the event of Beekum Sah's coming into his camp, to point out to that Zemindar the necessity of his attending on the Ameen, conformably with the tenor of the proclamation issued by his Excellency the Vizier, and thereby evincing due submission to the authority of his Excellency's Government.

I had the honour to receive this morning your despatch of the 15th instant.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
17th September 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter from
Captain Blackney.

To Major Richards, commanding at Sultanpore, Oude.

Sir :

On my arrival yesterday at Purtaubgurh, I sent an hurkarra to Rampoor, for the purpose of ascertaining the probable force of Beekum Sah and his followers, and was in consequence shortly after waited on by the Vakeel of the former, who assured me that his master wished much to settle amicably the existing dispute between him and the Ameen, and that on his return to the ghurry he would cause it to be evacuated.

I have now the satisfaction to report the place in possession of a small party of my sepoy (Beekum Sah and his followers having quitted it peaceably this morning), and that I am in hourly expectation of his arrival in my camp.

I wait your further orders, and am, &c.

Camp Rampoor,
17th September 1814.

(Signed) J. F. BLACKNEY,
Captain, commanding a Detachment.

To

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Oct. 1814.

Sir:

I have the honour herewith to transmit a copy of a second letter of the same date, and subsequently received from Captain Blackney, commanding the detachment at Rampoor. In consequence of this communication I have thought it expedient to direct Captain Blackney to endeavour to surprize and disperse the force collected by Beekum Sah; provided from the information he may obtain of that Zemindar's strength of position and followers, he considers such a measure practicable with the detachment under his orders.

Letter from
Major Richards.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
18th September 1814.

(Signed)

G. RICHARDS, Major,
commanding at Sultanpore.

To Major Richards, commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter from
Captain Blackney.

Sir:

Since the dispatch of my letter of this morning, I have had several communications from Beekum Sah, through the channel of his Vakeel, none of which, however, appear to promise any prospect of a speedy negotiation, and it is my opinion that some time will be requisite to establish the necessary confidence between the soldiers of the Ameen and Beekum Sah's adherents, who are represented to be in considerable force about two coss in an easterly direction from my camp.

I have, therefore, for the present, occupied the ghurry of Rampoor with a party from my detachment, and shall continue such in it until I may receive your instructions on this particular point, as the whole of the followers of Beekum Sah are much averse to the Ameen's troops taking possession of the place.

Beekum Sah, in his communications hitherto, promises to pay a certain proportion of the revenue remaining due, and for the balance to give unexceptionable securities.

It however appears, from information I have obtained from the police here, that those guarantees will not be admitted of by the Ameen, he conceiving them not worthy of trust.

Thus stand matters at present; but I have every hope that the conciliatory measures I propose to adopt will eventually prove successful in the re-establishment of good order, and also in the realization of revenue due to his Excellency the Vizier.

The Hurkarra who carried my letter of this morning to your address, will inform you of some depredations committed on villages in the neighbourhood last night.

I have, &c.

Camp, Rampoor,
8 o'clock, p. m.
17th September 1814.

(Signed)

J. BLACKNEY, Captain,
commanding a Detachment.

To Major Richards, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore, Oude.

Letter from
Major Baillie.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th instant, with their several enclosures. Your instructions to Captain Blackney appear to have been prepared with judgment, and to have been executed by that officer with zeal.

2. The ghurry of Rampoor, and all other fortresses or ghurries in the district, should be levelled to the ground as soon as they are evacuated by the Zemindars, and you will be pleased to instruct Captain Blackney to this effect. Similar orders will be issued by his Excellency the Vizier to the Ameen of the district of

Bengal Political
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Sultanpore, and to all other ~~Amsons~~ districts in which fortresses may be found, and the Zemindars dispossessed of them by our troops.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Major Richards.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour herewith to transmit a further report from Captain Blackney, commanding the detachment at Rampoor. Until I receive your further instructions, I thought it advisable to direct Captain Blackney to remain at Rampoor, and not to cross the river in pursuit of Beekum Sah for the present. I have, however, desired that officer to avail himself of any opportunity of attacking that Zemindar in the event of his re-crossing the river.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore,
21st September 1814.

(Signed)

G. RICHARDS, Major,
commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter from
Captain Blackney.

To Major Richards, commanding at Sultanpore, Oude.

Sir:

Having gained certain information, in the course of yesterday, of the place of encampment of Beekum Sah, which was said to be about three coss distant from my camp, and about one mile on the north side of the Goomty, I determined on beating up his quarters, and had some hopes of succeeding in dispersing the mutinous adherents who have attached themselves to his service. I accordingly left my camp for that purpose about nine o'clock, p. m., taking with me three companies, and leaving the fourth or seventh company with Lieutenant Duncan in charge of the camp, which I left standing.

Having arrived at the ghaut, where my Hurkarra told me I was to cross in the pursuit, I was grieved to find that the rebel, Beekum Sah, had conveyed all the boats and canoes from the southern side of the river to the north banks, and there sunk them, to prevent the possibility of his being surprized by my detachment; and while I was engaged in securing the inhabitants of a small village that stood immediately upon the ghaut, to prevent their giving notice of my approach, I discovered the lighted matches of the enemy on the opposite side of the river from me, and almost immediately they commenced a smart fire on my sepoy, for which in return I gave them a few shots; but, to prevent the possibility of any casualty occurring in my detachment, I caused it to fall back under cover of the village, where I remained under arms until the break of day, and then returned to my camp at Rampoor. My Hurkarras inform me that Beekum Sah was joined yesterday by a great number of armed men from this district, and that his force is increasing daily.

The Bildars have commenced this morning on destroying the gherry of Rampoor.

I think a detachment from the force at Sultanpore could very easily oblige the rebel force to re-cross the river into this district, when I should be prepared to receive him.

The bearer of this can give you much information on this subject; and I think the earliest opportunity, with most vigorous measures, should be adopted to crush, if possible, the rising power of the rebel, and check the great influence he at present holds over the minds of the natives about here.

I have, &c.

Camp, Rampoor,
20th September 1814.

(Signed)

J. F. BLACKNEY, Captain,
commanding a Detachment.

To

To Major Richards, commanding at Sultanpore, Oude.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st instant with its inclosure, Captain Blackney's report of his proceedings against the rebellious landholder, Beekum Sah.

2. The recent conduct of Beekum Sah, as now described by Captain Blackney, is very different, indeed, from what I contemplated as the probable result of Captain Blackney's proceedings against him, and from the purport of Captain Blackney's early reports, as conveyed in your former despatches.

3. It seems now to be not only expedient but indispensable, that the most vigorous measures be adopted for the suppression of Beekum Sah and his associates, the dispersion of their followers in arms, and the seizure of the rebel's person, if it be possible; and you will accordingly be pleased to adopt such measures as you may deem necessary and proper, with a view to the accomplishment of these objects, immediately on your receipt of this despatch, unless the intermediate submission of Beekum Sah and his personal attendance on the Ameen shall have superseded the necessity for further proceedings against him.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
23d September 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Oct. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour herewith to transmit copy of a letter received from Captain Blackney, commanding the detachment at Rampoor.

I have the pleasure to report that I have succeeded in prevailing upon Roostum Sing, Zemindar of Buhdeya, who has hitherto been considered as refractory, to attend on the Ameen of Sultanpore. I entertain hopes that much may be yet done by conciliatory measures.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
23d September 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS, Major,
commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter from
Major Richards.

To Major Richards, commanding at Sultanpore, Oude.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your's dated yesterday, and to inform you that, in consequence of the night attack I made on Beekum Sah, he dismissed on the following day all those adherents who had attached themselves to him, and is now residing with eight attendants in a ghurry, or fort, on the northern side of the Goomty, the property of those two refractory Zemindars so much in arrears of rent to his Excellency the Vizier.

In the few shots I exchanged with him across the river on the night of the 20th, I wounded two of his followers, one severely through the loins, and the other in the thigh. The former, it is reported, cannot live.

The villagers of all this district are much attached to Beekum, and at a moment's warning can and will, I am credibly informed, turn out a force of armed men of between six and seven hundred.

In obedience to your orders, I shall not attempt to cross the Goomty in pursuit of him, but unless, as I before stated, the Ameen will promise security to his person in the event of his coming into his camp, and in compliance with the proclamation issued to that effect, I am convinced that on the moment of my withdrawing from hence he will immediately return, and again compel the retreat of the Ameen's troops from this part of the world.

I am informed that about five years since a similar dispute to the one now existing took place between Beekum Sah and the Aumil, and that the late Colonel Palmer, then commanding at Sultanpore, interfered, and was promised security

Letter from
Captain Blackney.

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security for the man's person by the Aumil ; in consequence of which he obeyed the summons for his attendance on the Aumil, when he was immediately seized and put in irons. Such conduct is certainly calculated to produce the want of confidence that now appears so evident on the part of Beekum Sah ; and some conciliatory measures of the Ameen should be adopted, with the view of establishing quiet in this district, and of realizing the arrears of rent due by Beekum.

I have, &c.

Camp, Rampoorra,
21st September 1814.

(Signed)

J. F. BLACKNEY, Captain,
commanding a Detachment.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 Nov. 1814.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 18th November 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Bart., K.B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the accompanying duplicate of a despatch which I have this day addressed to the Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
25th October 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To John Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 26th ultimo, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the further information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of letters more recently received from Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell and Major Richards, commanding the troops at Seetapore and Sultanpore.

2. Under existing circumstances, and with reference to the paper of requests that has been recently submitted by the Vizier to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, I feel some hesitation in preparing and issuing my instructions to the commanding-officers of the troops on the questions which they have referred to me, till I be honoured with his Lordship's commands on the subject of my several despatches, reporting the progress of reform in the assessment and collection of the revenues of his Excellency the Vizier's dominions.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th October 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I beg leave to send you copies of Persian letters which I have received from the Ameen of Gopamow, &c. preferring against the Zemindars of Nyar a complaint that they oppose the orders of Government in resisting the establishment of a police in their village.

Under the idea that there might have been orders from the Government to establish a police, I have done every thing in my power (that mildness can suggest) to persuade them from resisting the authorities they are bound to obey : but my endeavours have failed, and I find by Captain Burgh's answers to my letters, and from a letter which I have received myself from Hoolass and

and Munsook, the Zemindars of Nyar, that they continue as averse to receiving the police as ever.

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Consultations,
18 Nov. 1814.

I send you a copy of all the correspondence which has passed between Captain Burgh and myself on the subject.

Being ignorant of what the intention and wishes of the Government are in regard to the police to be established, I have not felt myself authorized any further to take notice of Aga Jan's appeal to me than to give advice to the offenders, and I shall now look to you for instructions.

I have, &c.

Seetapore,
17th October 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding at Seetapore.

Sir :

I beg leave to acquaint you, that both the Havildar Kheruthur Sing and Heerah sepoy, rejoined their detachment yesterday evening.

Letter from
Captain Burgh.

They state that the whole of the force collected by Peetum Sing, Zemindar, had again returned to their houses, and that all is now perfectly quiet in that part of the country.

The accompanying Persian note I yesterday received from Peetum Sing, which I have the pleasure to forward for your perusal.

I have, &c.

Tandeeawn,
8th October 1814.

(Signed) R. BURGH, Captain,
commanding a Detachment First
Battalion Fifteenth Regiment.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding at Seetapore.

Sir :

I beg leave to acquaint you, that the party of Nujeebs which was a few days back sent to the village of Nyar, has been obliged to return, as the Zemindars, Hoolass and Munsook, will not allow a police to be established in their village.

Letter from
Captain Burgh.

The accompanying is from the Chucladar, reporting the whole business.

I have, &c.

Tandeeawn,
10th October 1814.

(Signed) R. BURGH, Captain,
commanding a Detachment First
Battalion Fifteenth Regiment.

To Captain Burgh, commanding Tandeeawn.

Sir :

I have received your letter of the 10th instant, with its enclosures, two letters, namely, one from Mirza Aga Jan, and one to the Mirza's address from Mohümmüd Khan of the police. Your own acquaints me with the chief point, that the Zemindars of Nyar, Hoolass and Munsook, will not allow the police Nujeebs to be established in their village, and refers me for full information to the Chucladar, Aga Jan's letters.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

I observe from the contents of all, that you have advised Aga Jan, after his having made you acquainted with all the circumstances, to recall the police servants. I am sorry that you did not, however, before taking this step, send an intelligent non-commissioned officer or sepoy to ascertain the truth of the fact, who (if it was really well founded) could have carried your sentiments to the Zemindars, and placed in a proper light before them the great impropriety of resisting, by such conduct to the police, the positive orders of the Government.

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Consultations,
16 Nov. 1814.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

I am, I must confess, of opinion that if the Zemindars have acted as is said to the police, there must be some strong reasons for it, and possibly that the orders of the Nawaub, as well relative to the new system as to the employment of the police Nujeebs, have not been clearly and properly explained. But, indeed, Aga Jan has so lately assured me that he had given general circulation to the proclamation, that I can hardly believe he has neglected such an important measure.

For the present, you had better send a non-commissioned officer or sepoy to require an account of the particulars; and if the complaint turns out to be frivolous, afterwards request Aga Jan to have the Nujeebs posted again. At all events, endeavour to persuade the Zemindars (if they have a serious dislike to the police) to let them remain undisturbed in the villages for the present, and to draw out a statement of the reasons which make them complain, for you to have forwarded to his Excellency the Nawaub, who, no doubt (should their cause be reasonable), will give them redress.

I request of you to impress upon the Chucladar's mind, that only extremities, and that in a just cause, can warrant the line of severity he wishes to shew so precipitately to the Zemindars, and that the object of every Government must be to use mild and moderate measures so long as the least hope remains of moderate measures proving successful.

I have, &c.

Seetapore,
12th October 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

Letter from
Captain Burgh.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding at Seetapore.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant; in reply to which I beg leave to acquaint you, that I sent an intelligent and careful sepoy to explain to them (the Zemindars) that they had better allow the police to be stationed, as it was the orders of the Nawaub that one should be placed in all the large villages. He has also pointed out to them the impropriety of resisting the positive orders of the Government.

The Zemindars still persist in refusing to admit the police, and say if it is stationed they will immediately quit their houses and retire into the jungle, as you will perceive by the enclosure which was sent by Peetum Sing.

The other enclosure is from Aga Jan, reporting the whole circumstance.

I have, &c.

Tandeeawn,
14th October 1814.

(Signed) W. BURGH, Captain,
commanding a Detachment First
Battalion Fifteenth Regiment.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you herewith the accompanying letter from Captain Burgh with one from the Ameen of Gopamow, &c., and another from Inaet Alee Tannadar, complaining of the Zemindars being averse to have police guards established in their villages. I have written to these Zemindars, enjoining them to comply with the orders conveyed to them by the Ameen, by allowing the Mootusuddies and Nujeebs of the police to remain in their villages unmolested, and shall take no further steps in this business till I am favoured with your instructions.

The Ameen of Gopamow has such a great dislike to the Zemindars of his district and they to him, that I conceive his removal to some other situation, and another of a more conciliating disposition being appointed in his room, would restore them all to good order without having recourse to harsh measures.

I have, &c.

Seetapore,
19th October 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Seetapore.
To

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to transmit the accompanying letters from the Ameen of Aldemow and from Zemindars in that quarter.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 Nov. 1814.

Letter from
Major Richards.

Should you deem it expedient to order a detachment from this post against the refractory Zemindars, I conceive that less than a battalion will not be adequate, as the Zemindars alluded to are able to collect a considerable force. Two or three companies, therefore, from Purtaubghur, would be requisite for the protection of this cantonment in the absence of the detachment under my command. In the event of a force being detached from this post as above stated, I propose proceeding with it; and as it will most probably be requisite to attack the ghurries of the refractory Zemindars, will you have the goodness to order the battering train with the usual detail of European artillery-men to be placed at my disposal. A troop of cavalry from Purtaubghur would also, for obvious reasons, be very desirable to form part of my field force.

The right wing of the first battalion of the Fourteenth Regiment has arrived at this post. I have been under the necessity of detaining the left wing of my battalion till I hear from Mr. Sands, the collector of Elahabad, respecting the pay for August, the drafts for the payment of the troops at this post having been forwarded to him.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
22d October 1814.

(Signed) G. RICHARDS, Major,
commanding the Troops Sultanpoor, &c.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 6th December 1814.

To J. Adam, Esq. Secretary to Government.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of letters which I have recently received from, and addressed to, the commanding officers of the troops at the stations of Seetapore and Secroa.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I beg leave to send, for your information, other letters which I have received from the Gopamow Chucladar. Clear it seems from them all, that the establishment of a police, for some reason or other, has excited a general dislike, and has been alike ill received in all quarters.

Something must be done, if it is necessary that the orders of his Highness the Nawaub should be enforced. But with a view to avoid extremities as long as any other expedient remains to be tried, I propose shortly (as I have your permission) to take the circuit of the different places which have stood out against the establishment of a police, and I hope in person to be able, (so great a weight is paid by the natives to rank), to bring them at last quietly into the measure. I have only this reason, indeed, for preferring to undertake this task myself, rather than entrust it to the execution of my officers.

It would be very desirable, however, before I take these steps, to possess a copy of the proclamation or orders which his Excellency the Nawaub may have had circulated on this separate and particular subject, which if I had them by me while performing this service for his Excellency I should certainly find of the greatest use.

I request

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

I request the favour of you to procure for me, therefore, these documents to act upon, and

I have, &c.

Seetapore, Oude,
4th November 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the pleasure to enclose, for your information, more letters which I have received from the Chucladar of Gopamow, one of them from Bukht Mul, Ameen of Belgram, and another from Aga Jan. With these I send a copy of my answer to the former person. All are on the subject of the police.

I have, &c.

Seetapore, Oude,
7th November 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding at Seetapore.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I write to inform you, that the Chucladar of Gopamow came over the day before yesterday to Seetapore, and has been with me to make further complaints on the subject of the police, and to explain the difficulties he meets with in collecting the public revenues.

I have requested him, in consequence, to afford me a full statement of these several particulars in an official manner; and the enclosed is what I have obtained from him. I deem it the best manner of conveying the information to transmit it as it stands to you.

I have, &c.

Seetapore, Oude,
9th November 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding at Seetapore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding at Seetapore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters noted in the margin,* with their respective enclosures, translations and copies of which have been submitted to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. The State of the district of Banghur, as described in your recent despatches, and the opposition evinced by the Zemindars to the establishment of a police in that district, combined with some other considerations, which it is unnecessary here to detail, have induced his Excellency the Vizier to dispense with the personal services of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan at the capital, and to dismiss that intelligent Aumil to the district of Khyrabad and Mohumdee, where I have every reason to expect that his presence and able management, with the support to be afforded by you, will speedily accomplish the object of reconciling the landholders to the police and establishing good order in the district.

3. Hukeem Mehdee being vested with ample authority in the character of Zillahdar or collector of the districts which were heretofore farmed by him, and being fully apprized of the wishes and views of his Sovereign regarding the future management of the country, as well as of my sentiments respecting the best and easiest mode of fulfilling his Sovereign's wishes, I refer you to the statements of the Hukeem for every degree of information which it may be necessary for you to obtain before you employ the troops in support of his authority or measures.

4. My

* 4th, 7th, and 9th instant.

4. My personal communications to yourself during your recent visit to this capital must have served to put you in complete possession of my sentiments regarding the employment of the troops, and on every other question of importance that can arise between you and the local authority; and I rely with confidence on your approved judgment, professional talents, and conciliatory manners, in concert with Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, for the speedy and successful accomplishment of the public purposes in his district.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
14th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Herewith I have the honour of transmitting to you a public letter from Lieutenant Otto, commanding the detachment of my corps in the Mubmoodabad district, accompanied by some translations of correspondence between him and the refractory Zemindars, from which it would appear that they still retain possession of forts said formerly to be evacuated.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Fraser.

I have, &c.

Secrora,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Secrora.

To Captain A. Stoneham, commanding at Byramghaut.

Sir:

I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of the Resident and Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, copies of correspondence between Bence Sing, Zemindar of Budjera, and myself. He is the principal insurgent, and is now in a fort with five hundred followers. The place is surrounded by three bamboo hedges, with an intermediate ditch between each of them. The entrance is capable of admitting a gun to the gate, as yesterday a hackery with five maunds of gunpowder was conveyed into the interior of the place. I think that another complete company, in addition to the one which I have, with two guns, would soon be the means of restoring peace in the neighbourhood: but should Bence Sing persist in the line of conduct which he has adopted, so as to require the execution of coercive measures, his fort at Budjera could not be reduced with less than three full companies and guns for battering. I regret that the Resident did not notice my letter of the 3d instant, as, without some instructions or discretionary power is granted to me, the detachment might as well have remained in cantonments; I shall, therefore, thank you to ascertain from the Resident what is required from the detachment, and the object upon which it is sent, as it is too insignificant at present to adopt coercive measures, and it is my opinion that nothing can be done without them.

Letter from
Lieutenant Otto.

I have, &c.

Durumpore,
10th November 1814.

(Signed) W. OTTO, Lieutenant,
commanding a Detachment of the
11th Regiment N. I.

To Bence Persaud, Zemindar of Budjera, &c.

On my arrival at Baloulie, your Vakeel waited on me, intimating your intention of coming in next day. I expect that you will wait upon me within the space of two days, otherwise I shall proceed against you.

Munoo Sing and Dureaw Sing, Zemindars of Durumpore, are with you, and the greater part of the inhabitants. Your waiting upon me will induce these two Zemindars to do the same and restore the inhabitants to their villages. Bence Rāfut complained to Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, who ordered me

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

Letter from
Lieutenant Otto.

with this detachment to investigate into and redress grievances, and restore the tranquillity of the country; therefore, you had better come in and wait upon me, or I shall march against you.

Durumpore, Camp,
5th November 1814.

(Signed) W. Otto, Lieutenant,
commanding a Detachment of the
1st Battalion 11th Regiment.

Benee Persaud's Answer to the foregoing Letter.

I have received your letter. I send you my compliments. I am well and require your good opinion. From your favour I am here. You wrote to me to come and visit you. I am present. Neither Dureaw nor Munoo Sing are here, or I should send them to you. Should they, however, be discovered to be here on inquiry, you may inflict on me what punishment you choose. Bebee Rāfut's statement is false; the Zemindars are not here. I am present, and am responsible.

Received 6th November 1814.

(Signed) BENE PERSAUD,
Zemindar of Budjera.

To Benee Persaud, Zemindar of Budjera.

I sent a sepoy, (with a letter also,) to accompany you into camp, and you write me by him that you are present. How can you be said to be present while at such a distance? Come and wait upon me. I wish to ascertain the cause of this disturbance between you and Bebee Rāfut, that I may effect a reconciliation betwixt you. You shall receive no molestation in doing so. I shall investigate the whole business, and forward your statement to the Resident for his decision, which may ultimately tend to your advantage.

Durumpore,
7th November 1814.

(Signed) W. Otto, Lieutenant,
commanding a Detachment of the First
Battalion Eleventh Regiment.

Answer.

I send my compliments to Lieutenant Otto, and I have received his letter containing an invitation to his camp, which I cannot accept. As Munoo Sing and Dureaw Sing, the depredators of the Bebee's country, are relations of mine, should they wait upon you first, I shall do the same; but, should I wait upon you without them, they would destroy my country, in the same manner as they have done the Bebee's.

(Signed) BENE PERSAUD.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the Troops at Secora.
Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 12th instant with its enclosures, reports of Lieutenant Otto's proceedings in the district of Muhmoodabad.

2. The rebellious conduct of Benee Sing, Zemindar of Budjera, as described in Lieutenant Otto's reports, appears to leave no alternative to the adoption of military operations, with a view to his exemplary punishment or the surrender of the fortress which he occupies; and if the force under your command, with the guns attached to your corps, be deemed adequate to the performance of this service, I authorize and direct you to undertake it without any further delay.

3. You will be pleased, in the first place, to ascertain whether or not a battering-train be required to reduce the fortress in question. From the description which I have received of it, and of the means of defence which are possessed by the refractory landholder, Benee Sing, there seems reason to expect, that the appearance of a respectable force in the neighbourhood would induce the submission of the Zemindar, and surrender of the fortress to our troops.

The

The Range of Mubunabad, whose authority you were instructed to support, is said to have some guns of her own, and these, with your battalion guns, may perhaps be found sufficient for the purpose; but of this you are the only competent judge, and it is totally unnecessary for me to remind you of the orders of Government against undertaking operations against forts, without ample equipment for the service.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
14th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. In continuation of the subject of my despatch of yesterday's date, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of two further letters from the commanding officer at Secroa, the latter of which conveys the satisfactory intelligence of the submission of the refractory Zemindars; and supersedes the necessity of any further military operations.

2. I have accordingly instructed Colonel Fraser to countermand the march of his corps, as you will be pleased more particularly to observe in the accompanying copy of my letter of this date to that officer.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Fraser.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 14th instant, and in conformity thereto immediately directed the artillery and troops at this post, with the exception of one hundred rank and file for the protection of cantonments, to hold themselves in momentary readiness of march. I despatched two Hurkarras across the country to Lieutenant Otto, with special instructions to give me every possible information regarding the strength, situation, and condition of the fort or forts now in possession of Benec Sing, and to ascertain by any means he can, without any material risk or injury to his detachment, whether a battering-train is absolutely necessary to ensure the reduction of the place. His reply I expect in the course of to-morrow; and should it state the necessity of a battering-train, I shall forward it for your consideration. Meantime the troops are held in readiness; and in the event of your instructions to march against Benec Sing, upon the mere supposition of our appearance intimidating him to a surrender, it shall be instantly effected.

Lieutenant Otto's official reply to me I shall of course forward for your information; and should it be of that tendency to afford hopes of success without a battering-train, I shall forthwith proceed, as considering the instructions already received perfectly sufficient. I find my route must be by Byramgath; and as it will greatly expedite my movement, it is my intention to take one gun from this post, and the two stationed there, with my corps, for the purpose of more effectually accomplishing the object in view.

I have, &c.

Secroa,
16th November 1814.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Secroa.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Fraser.

To Major Baillic, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Herewith I have the honour of transmitting to you Lieutenant Otto's official reply to my letter of the 15th instant.

I trust you will deem the contents of so satisfactory a nature as to obviate the necessity of my moving with the artillery and corps under my command, and that I may be authorized to countermand my orders of march (on account of its extra expenses), and also recall Lieutenant Otto's detachment, as soon as its services may be dispensed with.

I have, &c.

Secrora,
18th November 1814.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Secrora.

Letter from
Lieutenant Otto.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding at Secrora.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, directing me to ascertain the strength of Bence Persaud's forts and the force requisite to reduce them. I have now the pleasure to acquaint you, that Bence Persaud has come to a due sense of his obedience, and is now as anxious to effect a reconciliation as he was formerly to avoid it. I had an interview with him on the 13th, and received letters from Munoo Sing and Dureaw Sing (at the same time), expressing a desire of coming to an understanding, and to accomplish which they meant to wait on me. I therefore delayed acquainting you with Bence Persaud's concession till the arrival of these men, in order that I might acquaint you with the final adjustment of all their animosities. In this expectation I have been disappointed, for neither Munoo nor Dureaw Sing have come in, nor have I received any answer from them to my letter, desiring them to come in and settle their differences. These men (from what I can learn) have no fixed abode, but rove about the country. Runjeet Sing, Rajah of Rajpore, is said to be in league with them. Bence Persaud's fort is not visible from without, being concealed in the foliage of the bamboos. I still expect Munoo Sing and Dureaw Sing to come in in the course of a few days, when all their differences will terminate amicably.

I have, &c.

Camp, Durumpore,
17th November 1814.

(Signed) W. OTTO, Lieutenant,
commanding a Detachment of the First
Battalion Eleventh Regiment.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the Troops at Secrora.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 18th instant, with its enclosure. If you be satisfied of the grounds of Lieutenant Otto's expectation of the early adjustment of all disputes between the Ranee of Muhmoodabad and Bence Sing, you will be pleased to countermand the orders of march of your battalion; and when the tranquillity of the district shall be established, you will recall Mr. Otto's detachment.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the annexed copy of a letter which I have this day received from Colonel Frith, commanding the troops at Purtaubgurh.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that at the requisition of Major-General Wood, sanctioned by the authority of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, a detachment from my regiment, consisting of one troop and the galloper guns, commenced its march this morning for Goruckpore by the route of Jounpore and Azimgurh.

The officers of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier have been apprized of the march of this detachment, and requested to furnish any supplies it might require in passing through the district.

I also beg leave to acquaint you, that the Ameens lately sent into the neighbouring districts have such countenance from me as my situation enables me to afford them, and as seemed necessary to support his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier's authority in the country. To a few Zemindars, who seemed rather disinclined to come in to the Ameens, I have sent two or three mounted troopers with a civil message, recommending their immediate attendance, and which, I have reason to think, will be attended to, as the Zemindars appear to be acquiring confidence, and less apprehensive of being confined or ill-treated, the excuse they have hitherto made for holding back.

I have, &c.

Purtaubgurh,
29th October 1814.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 Dec. 1814.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Frith.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 13th December 1814.

To J. Adan, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

1. Be pleased to submit to the notice of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General the enclosed copies of letters which I have addressed to the commanding officers of the troops at the four principal stations in the interior of the province of Oude, in compliance with the Vizier's requisition, a translation of which is enclosed.

2. My instructions addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, which form a number of this despatch, would seem to preclude the propriety of withdrawing the detachment from Shahabad, as suggested in your despatch of the 22d instant, which I take this opportunity of acknowledging, and I have therefore determined to postpone a communication on that subject to the Vizier till I be honoured with your further commands.

3. The march of the flank companies of the first battalion of the Fifteenth Regiment from Seetapore, under the orders of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, was reported to me several days ago by the commanding-officer at Seetapore, and a suitable communication of that measure was made to his Excellency the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
26th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Frazer, commanding at Secrora.

Sir :

1. I request the favour of your attention to the enclosed translation of a letter and statement which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. My former despatches to your address regarding the aid to be afforded to Ameens for establishing their authority in their districts, preclude my attaching belief to the statements of such of the Ameens as represent the failure of their applications for your support, if attended by the necessary information. At

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

the same time, I deem it to be my duty, in compliance with the requisition of the Vizier, to address you again on this subject, and to beg that the necessary measures for the establishment of the authority of the Ameens and realization of the public revenue, be adopted as early as may be practicable.

3. The outrage committed by Mandhattah is of a very atrocious nature, and should be punished in an exemplary manner by the seizure of his person, if it be practicable, or by expulsion from the lands which he holds. The Ameen of the district of Hissampore has been instructed to communicate with you on this subject, and to afford you every necessary information.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
24th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 21st November 1814.)

An arzee from Kootb-ood-Deen Hussun, Ameen of Sandee, is enclosed for your information; the arzee of the Ameen of Akburpore, requesting the punishment of Surboodoom Sing, an arzee from the Ameen of Purtaubghur, of similar purport, and a statement of the rebellious conduct of Mandhattah Sing, son of Sheopersaud, Zemindar of Bumnowtee, have already been conveyed to you. Other Ameens have also requested the aid of the British troops for the punishment of the refractory in their districts, and therefore it is necessary that you repeat your instructions to the commanding-officers, to ascertain from the several Ameens the nature of the disorders in their Elakas, and then adopt the necessary measures to put a stop to them. If this measure be postponed any longer, the revenues not being paid, loss to the Government must arise.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Statement referred to in the above.

Mohummud Beg and Assūd Alee Suwars, belonging to the Ressala of Mahmood Khan Khundharee, in the service of the Nawaub, told Ballasheer, Tehsildar of Hissampore, that agreeably to the orders of the Hoozoor, they were escorting Dhokul Sing, Moostajer of Rehoa, to Lucknow, when Mandhattah, son of Sheopersaud, Zemindar of Bumnowtee, with nine hundred men pursued Dhokul Sing, who fled into the house of Soha Sing, Zemindar of Kolhan, and therefore that the Tehsildar should immediately proceed with his forces and guns to the assistance of Dhokul Sing. The Tehsildar paid no regard to this suggestion, and the Suwars proceeded to the village of Kolhan, where they remained till night, and returning to Ismael Gunge, have reported that the followers of Mandhattah Sing entered the dwelling of Soha Sing by force, and put Dhokul Sing, the Moostajer, to death.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, or Officer commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

Sir :

1. I request the favour of your attention to the enclosed translation of a letter and arzee which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. My former despatches to your address, regarding the aid to be afforded to Ameens for establishing their authority in their districts, preclude my attaching belief to the statements of such of the Ameens as represent the failure of their applications for your support, if attended by the necessary information. At the same time, I deem it to be my duty, in compliance with the requisition of his Excellency

Excellency the Vizier, to address you again on this subject, and to beg that the necessary measures for the establishment of the authority of the Ameens and realization of the public revenue be adopted as early as may be practicable.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. With regard to the district of Sandee, my knowledge of the character of Kootb-ood-Deen Hussun, Ameen of that district, who was many years a Tehsildar in the province of Bundelcund, under my own immediate authority, would lead me to place greater reliance on his statements than on those of most other native officers in this country; and therefore I recommend to your consideration the propriety of your instructing Lieutenant Lloyd, who is now in the district of Sandee, employed on a separate service, to communicate and co-operate with the Ameen, not only in the execution of the service on which Lieutenant Lloyd is at present employed, but generally in the accomplishment of the objects which are stated in the Ameen's arzee, a translation of which is enclosed.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 21st November 1814.)

Vide enclosure in the Resident's letter to Colonel Frazer, dated 24th November 1814 (page 646).

Letter
from the Vizier.

The Arzee of Kootb-ood-Deen Hussun, Ameen of Sandee. (Dated the 14th November 1814.)

As there are several rivulets, streams, and nullahs, in the purgunnah of Sandee, the khureef crop has in consequence been inundated. In some villages, however, from the refractory disposition of the Zemindars, and in others from their poverty, owing to the unjust exactions of former Aumils, the revenues remain to be realized. The Zemindars, under a natural apprehension of being pressed for the arrears of last year, and the amount of the khureef of the present year, do not attend in the Cutcherry, and have agreed among themselves to abscond when they have sown for the Rubbee crop. Some toomuns of nujeebs and companies of sepoys, who are stationed in this district, having in the month of Sawun, with Dhokul Sing, the discharged Aamil, been routed at the village of Mutchgawan in Burwan, the Zemindars stand in no awe of them whatever, and thus the establishment of the police thannahs has not been effected in Burwan at Kutearee.

The Zemindars of the purgunnah of Seromunnugur, which is situated between the purgunnahs of Sera and Burwan, in Khyrabad, having witnessed the disturbances in those two purgunnahs where the police thannahs were removed, have of late evinced a disposition to follow the example of those districts, and are collecting powder and ammunition for that purpose, as well as repairing their dismantled ghurries. If a detachment of the British troops be now sent into this Elaka, and instructed to encamp in such places as I may point out, the ghurry of Seromunnugur will soon be given up and may be levelled to the ground, the design of the Zemindars of Sandee in repairing their forts will be laid aside, and they will all return to their obedience; otherwise there is ground to apprehend that when the Rubbee seed shall be sown, the Zemindars may abscond and quit the district, and prevent the settlement being made as well as the establishment of the police.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubghur.

Sir :

1. I request the favour of your attention to the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. My former despatches to your address, regarding the aid to be afforded to Ameens for establishing their authority in their districts, preclude my attaching belief to the statements of such of the Ameens as represent the failure of their applications for your support, if attended by the necessary information. At the same time, I deem it to be my duty, in compliance with the requisition of the Vizier, to address you again on this subject, and to beg that the necessary measures for the establishment of the authority of the Ameens and realization of the public revenue be adopted as early as may be practicable.

3. The conduct of Surboodoom Sing, in particular, appears to me to be such as to require your immediate notice, and the adoption of effectual measures for the exemplary punishment of that landholder, by the reduction of all the forts in his occupation, which should be dismantled and razed to the ground.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
24th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Richards, or the Officer commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Sir :

1. I request the favour of your attention to the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier.

2. My former despatches to your address regarding the aid to be afforded to Ameens for establishing their authority in their districts, preclude my attaching belief to the statements of such of the Ameens as represent the failure of their applications for your support, if attended with the necessary information. At the same time, I deem it to be my duty, in compliance with the requisition of the Vizier, to address you again on this subject, and to beg that the necessary measures for the establishment of the authority of the Ameens and realization of the public revenue be adopted as early as may be practicable.

3. The conduct of Surboodoom Sing, in particular, appears to me to be such as to require your immediate notice, and the adoption of effectual measures, in concert with Colonel Frith, for the exemplary punishment of Surboodoom Sing, by the reduction of all the forts in his occupation, which should be dismantled and razed to the ground.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
24th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 21st November 1814.)

Vide Enclosure in the Resident's Letter to Colonel Frazer, dated 24th November 1814 (page 646).

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th December 1814.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1814.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir G. Nugent, Bart., K. B., Vice-President
in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the enclosed duplicate of my despatch to the Secretary in the Political Department, under date the 5th instant.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
6th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch, under date the 26th ultimo, I have the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed copies of further letters which have recently passed between me and the commanding-officers of the troops at Seetapore, Sultanpore, and Purtaubgurh.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

Sir :

I have resumed the command of this cantonment, and have the honour therefore to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, to Captain Burgh's address, with its enclosures (received yesterday evening).

I have the pleasure to send you the copy of a letter which I have written to Captain Lloyd, on the strength of your instructions to Captain Burgh.

I had yesterday an interview with Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, who presented to me your private letter. From his account of the unsettled and disorderly state of the districts under his control, I am of opinion that to be able to afford him the support he requires, it will be expedient to move with the main body of the battalion and guns to an eligible point in the Bangah country, and to leave only about fifty men with the recruits of about an equal number, under an European officer, to protect the cantonments, there being little danger to be apprehended here.

The force I shall have with me, if my suggestion meet your approbation, will, when united to the Company at present in Tandecawn, form a detachment of nearly three hundred and forty men, exclusive of the armed followers whom the Hukeem may have under his control.

From the Bangah country, I shall be conveniently ready to proceed to the Sandee neighbourhood, if an encreased force prove to be required there. In this manner, undertaking these services for the Nawaub with adequate and commanding means, I trust that I shall see the wishes of the Government accomplished without difficulty, and it is to be hoped, without bloodshed.

The accompanying statement of the corps under my command will shew the force now employed in this part of his Excellency the Nawaub's country.

I have, &c.

Seetapore, Oude,
30th November 1814.

(Signed) L. BURRELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Seetapore.

P. S. Permit me to add, that in case you have no objections to the movement of the troops and guns from Seetapore, I propose marching on the second proximo.

(Signed) L. BURRELL.

ORIGINAL PAPERS

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Lieutenant
Wroughton.

To Captain Lloyd.

Sir:

I am directed by Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell to instruct you to call for the company at Shahabad under Ensign Isaac, to join you, if you are of opinion that it will be able to do so with safety.

It is Colonel Burrell's order that you send him with the greatest haste an account of the ghurry of Kukkra (as far as you can obtain a knowledge of it from report), and afford him also a statement, with which the Ameen will be so good as to furnish you, of the strength of armed men, nujeebs, &c. who are with you, under the immediate direction of the Ameen, and from whom, in case of service, any assistance can be expected.

You are expected by the Resident at Lucknow to co-operate with the Ameen of Sandee as far as you have it in your power to do so, and the Colonel requests of you to act towards him in the most conciliatory manner. But on no account will you undertake, with a force that is not perfectly adequate, any hazardous service merely at his suggestion, or without making a reference.

I have, &c.

Cantonment, Staff, Seetapore,
29th November 1814.

(Signed) H. F. WROUGHTON,
Lieutenant.

P. S. The above sent by express yesterday evening, at half-past six, open, and enclosed to Ensign Isaac, commanding at Shahabad, who was directed to forward it, and proceed forthwith and join Captain Lloyd, leaving a small party for the care of the cantonments.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding at Seetapore.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 30th ultimo with its enclosure, a copy of your instructions to Captain Lloyd, the tenor of which I entirely approve.

2. I also highly approve your resolution to move towards the district of Bangah with the whole of the disposable force at your station, for the purpose of restoring the tranquillity of that district and the neighbouring purgunnah of Sandee, the state of which, as described by Captain Lloyd, and more particularly the rebellious conduct of the Zemindar of Kukkra and his associates, would appear to require the immediate adoption of measures to check the disorderly spirit which has recently arisen in that quarter.

3. I congratulate you most cordially on the happy restoration of your health; and I augur the most beneficial effects from your re-assuming the command of the troops, and from the exercise of your approved judgment and zeal in the performance of the duties of your station.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, covering a communication from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to you of the 21st instant.

The only part of that communication which relates to the districts dependent on this post, is that concerning the rebellious conduct of Mandhattah Sing, son of Sheopersaud Sing, Zemindar of Bumnowtee. Of this circumstance no intimation has been conveyed to me by Meer Imaum Alee, the Ameen of the district. I will inquire, however, into the business, and take the necessary steps to get it settled. Towards the latter end of last month Meer Imaum Alee informed me he Ameens had received orders from the Nawaub to commence on the collections of

of the present year, but that several of the principal Talookadars held back and would not attend their cutcherries. In consequence of this representation I detached two parties of cavalry, consisting of one havildar and eight troopers each, to the several Zemindars named as advised in my letter to you of the 29th ultimo, and they have all since come in, on the assurance that they would not be confined or ill-treated, and no complaint has been made to me since against any individual.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1814.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

I beg leave to acquaint you, that there are three battalions of six hundred men each, with seven guns and about one hundred irregular horse, stationed in the districts dependent on this post, for the collection of the revenue, *viz.*, one battalion, two guns, and thirty-five horse at Purtaubgurh; one battalion, two guns, and thirty-five horse at Ahmety, and one battalion, two large and one small gun, with thirty-five horse, at Dilleebpore and Puttee.

This force, if the corps are complete, would amount to upwards of two thousand men, and ought, as the forts have been all dismantled, to be amply sufficient to collect the revenue without calling on the regular troops, who, I apprehend, are not intended to be employed upon Sebundee duties. However, you will perceive from what is stated above, that I have not waited for your particular instructions to afford aid to the Ameens within my command, when it appeared necessary and proper.

The Akburpore district not being within the limits of my command, the punishment of Surboodoom Sing and the levelling the forts in that quarter fall within the province of the officer commanding at Sultanpore, unless my command is extended to both posts.

In the event of its being determined to send a detachment into the Akburpore district to level the forts and punish such Zemindars as are refractory, a detachment may now be formed from the two posts, consisting of eight companies of sepoys, a squadron of cavalry, and the two eighteen-pounders, and the two howitzers at this post for that duty; a force, which I conceive will be quite sufficient. Major Muller's battalion will reach Sultanpore in a day or two, when both posts will have their complete complement of troops.

The artillery-men, lascars, and stores for the battering-train, will be required from Elahabad. I shall, however, await your further instructions before I apply for them.

I have, &c.

Purtaubgurh,
29th November 1814.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding.

To Colonel Frith, commanding at Purtaubgurh.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th ultimo. The explanation which you have offered in that letter was by no means required to convince me of your uniform attention to the proper requisitions of the Ameens and of your zeal for the public service, of which I have had ample demonstration on many former occasions.

2. The outrage committed by Mandhattah Sing took place in the province of Baraitch, to which the district of Rumnowtee is an appendage, and I have issued the necessary instructions on that subject to the commanding-officer of the troops at Secroa.

3. My despatch to your address of the 1st of September last, and particularly my instructions of that date to Major Richards, a copy of which was transmitted to you, must have served to apprise you of my intentions with a reference to the conduct of Surboodoom Sing and other landholders of Akburpore, in the case of the failure of Major Richards' conciliatory efforts to recall those refractory Zemindars to a proper sense of their allegiance, and to induce their early liquidation of the just demands of the State.

From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. From the tenor of my despatch above noticed, and of your answer to that despatch, I concluded that a regular communication with you had been maintained on the part of Major Richards, and that on the failure of Major Richards' endeavours to recall Surboodoom Sing and the other Zemindars of Akburpore to a proper sense of their duty by means of conciliation and persuasion, a requisition would be conveyed to you for the aid of the battering-train and such other part of your force as might conveniently be spared from Purtaubgurh to co-operate with the force under Major Richards.

5. The employment of a detachment in Akburpore, for the punishment of the persons above noticed and the reduction and dismantling of their forts, seems now to be totally unavoidable, and you will be pleased to take the necessary measures for the formation and equipment of the force which is described in the concluding paragraph of your letter with the least practicable delay. I commit it to your own judgment to decide whether your assuming the personal command of the force to be employed in Akburpore, or remaining at your present station and conveying the necessary instructions, under my authority, to Major Muller, be most conducive to the general object of preserving the public tranquillity and supporting the authority of the Ameens in all the districts around you.

6. I notice the useful information, regarding the troops of his Excellency the Vizier in the districts contiguous to your station, which you have furnished in your letter before me, and I shall take advantage of this communication at my next interview with the Vizier, for the purpose of representing to his Excellency the perfect adequacy of his own troops in those districts, under proper management and discipline, to the purpose of collecting the revenue, without calling on the regular army.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Richards, or the Officer commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.
Sir :

I request the favour of your attention to the annexed translations of a letter and other documents which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier. I take this opportunity of transmitting to you, for your information and guidance, an extract from my instructions to Colonel Frith, commanding the troops at Purtaubgurh, under date the 1st instant.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. * (Received the 1st December 1814.)

An extract from an arzee from the Ameen of Aldemow, and a copy of a complaint preferred by Koonj Beharee, darogha of customs, are enclosed for your information. The rebellious conduct of Surboodoom Sing, Zemindar of Meopore Dooarka, and of Duljeet Sing, and Surubjeet Sing, Zemindars of Bidhur, have already been repeatedly described to you. The former has not paid a single rupee of the revenue for two years and a half, and the others have the audacity to collect the customs of the Government for themselves. The exemplary punishment of these rebels by your troops is indispensable. I have ordered all the Ameens to attend on the commanding-officers of the troops, and convey the necessary information.

Extract from an Arzee from Hafiz Alee Khan, Ameen of Aldemow, dated 22d November 1814.

To-day Mahomed Khan, the agent of Pookhraj, darogha of customs at this place, came to me and stated that Duljeet Sing and Surrupjeet Sing, Talooka-
dara

dars of Chandypore Bidhur, had removed the gomastahs (collectors) of customs and sayar from their several chokees (stations), and placed people of their own to collect the import duties. May it please your Excellency, the refractory in these districts, in consequence of no measures having been hitherto adopted to check them, have again become turbulent: your slave is therefore hopeful, that orders may be speedily issued for the punishment of the rebellious.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from the Vicer.

Presented by Koonj Beharee, Darogha of Customs.

On the 18th November Duljeet Sing, Zemindar of Bidhur, sent his people to the permit chokees at Bidhur, Sultanpore, Chandypore Jhownral. They abused the custom-house officers, ill treated and turned them out, and placed men of their own in their stead. The money which was contained in the ghuluk (an earthen pot covered with leather, having a small hole at the top to drop money in) has all been taken out and expended; indeed, they demand the amount of the collections for Kooar from the custom-house officers, and threatened to take from the permit collections one-fourth of the rent of their zemindary. These persons have also prevented the Buniahs, Duttols, and Abkars, from paying any duty to the darogha of customs.

True translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 17th January 1815.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the dates noted in the margin,* reporting the several occasions on which you have found it necessary to call for the services of the troops stationed in Oude for the support of the Vizier's officers, and especially the requisition of a battering-train, with a suitable detachment of troops, to act against certain refractory Zemindars in Purtaubghur.

2. In the actual condition of affairs and the eventual demands of the service, the Governor-General considers it to be extremely desirable to avoid engaging in any operations in Oude, which might produce the necessity of either abandoning an object once attempted, or the employment of a large force with battering guns at a time when the exigencies of the service may render it very inconvenient to have the troops so employed.

3. While, therefore, his Lordship is satisfied of the sufficiency of the grounds on which you judged it expedient to make the requisitions above referred to, I am directed to request you to bear in mind the considerations stated in the preceding paragraph, and to avoid, to the utmost practicable degree, any call for troops likely to produce the inconvenience apprehended.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nujeebabad,
21st December 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

To

* 18th, 19th, and 26th November, and 5th December 1814.

Regal Political
Consultations,
17 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Bart., K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the enclosed duplicate of a despatch of this date addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
28th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatch of the 5th instant, I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of my instructions, dated the 17th instant, addressed to Colonel Frith and Major Muller, with a copy of a letter from Major Muller and extracts from three letters which I have recently received from Colonel Frith, descriptive of a state of insubordination on the part of several landholders in the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow, and more particularly of the rebellious conduct of Surboodoom Sing, Zemindar of Dooarka, which would seem to have induced the apprehension of an attack by that person on the escort proceeding with treasure to the Presidency under the charge of Major Richards.

2. I have been urged repeatedly by the Vizier to take measures for the exemplary punishment of Surboodoom Sing, Zemindar of Dooarka, and some others in the district of Akburpore, who have constructed fortresses on their lands and resisted the authority of the Government, as well as appropriated the whole of the revenues of their estates during a period of several years ; and I was induced, in September last, to come under an engagement to his Excellency for the employment of a military force with a battering-train against those landholders, as soon as the necessary arrangements for this purpose could be made by the commanding-officer of the troops in the field. General Stafford had also assured me, that the equipment of the battering-train at Purtaubgurh should be ordered at an early period of the present cold season, so as to admit of the performance of the service which I had promised to his Excellency the Vizier without any material delay.

3. I feel, therefore, considerably embarrassed by the urgent requisitions of the Vizier for the suppression of his rebellious landholders in the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow, at a time when it appears to be impracticable to afford him the assistance of a detachment properly equipped for that service, and more particularly at a time like the present, when we have occasion to apply to his Excellency for many important aids which he has hitherto shewn a readiness to grant to the utmost extent of his power.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

Extract from a Letter from Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, dated the 14th of December 1814.

I had the honour to acquaint you in my letter of the 7th instant, that I had found it necessary on that day to detach two companies of sepoys to put a stop to the repairs of a fort belonging to Dunneah Sing at Suzakur, &c. ; and I have now to report, that the detachment returned to cantonments this morning, having completely and satisfactorily effected the object for which it was detached without meeting any resistance from the Zemindars.

A party of nujeebs belonging to the Ameen was placed in Suzakur, and the walls that had been recently built were levelled, before the officer who commanded the

the detachment came away. He also put parties of nujeebs in possession of five other small ghurries in that neighbourhood, and the Zemindars are all in attendance on the Ameen, as I am informed, with the exception of Dunneah Sing, who having been long confined in irons by the late Aumil of the district, could not overcome his apprehensions of being again confined and ill-treated if he put himself in the power of the Ameen.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
17 Jan. 1815.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

In my letter of the 7th I had the honour to mention the application of Nuneit Roy, the Ameen in the Ahmety district, for a force to go against Ishuree Sing, the Zemindar of Jammow; and the hurkarra I had sent out having returned with an unsatisfactory letter from Ishuree Sing, and reported that he had collected a large rabble of people and would not suffer the hurkarra to go within a coss of the place, I have found it necessary to detach a force against him, such as I hope will prevent resistance. It consists of a squadron of cavalry, four companies of sepoy, and two six-pounders, and is under the command of Lieutenant Grant, an experienced intelligent officer: it marched this morning. I have instructed Lieutenant Grant, in case of Ishuree Sing coming in and peaceably submitting to the constituted authorities, to assure him that he should not be confined or ill-treated, the apprehension of which being the general excuse made by the Zemindars for not coming in and submitting to the Nawaub's officers; but, in the event of resistance, to punish such as are found in arms. The further proceedings of this detachment I will report hereafter.

I have likewise the honour to acquaint you, that I have received intimation from Major-General Stafford that the equipments for the battering-train at this post would be furnished as soon as the other calls on the Ordnance Department would admit, the necessary steps being in progress for that purpose. When I learn any thing further I shall not fail to let you know.

P.S. Ensign Aitchison, who commanded the detachment, reports that he had the greatest difficulty in preventing the nujeebs from plundering, and that they are universally detested on this account. From what he states there appears to be no kind of discipline or subordination in those corps: hence a reform seems indispensably necessary.

A true extract:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th instant, conveying the satisfactory intelligence of the return of your detachment from Suzakur after accomplishing the object for which it was sent, as also the occupation of five other small ghurries in that neighbourhood by parties of the Vizier's troops preparatory to the dismantling of the ghurries.

2. I entirely approve the whole of your judicious proceedings on this occasion, which I shall report in suitable terms to his Excellency the Vizier, and I rely with perfect confidence on the zealous continuation and ultimate success of your efforts to establish the permanent tranquillity and good order of all the districts around you.

3. With a reference to the concluding paragraph of your letter, I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed copy of a letter of this date, which I have addressed to Major Muller, commanding the troops at Sultanpore.

4. I notice the information conveyed by the postscript of your letter, and I shall not fail to call the Vizier's attention to it with a view to the improvement of the discipline of his nujeebs.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
17th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
17 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Muller, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th instant with its enclosure, and to inform you that a suitable application on the subject of it has been made to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. I take this opportunity of apprizing you that I have lately received several communications from his Excellency the Vizier, accompanied by statements from his Ameens and other officers of revenue in the districts contiguous to your station, descriptive of the rebellious conduct of many of the Zemindars in those districts; more particularly Surboodoom Sing of Dooarka, and Surupject and Duljeet Sing of Chundypore Bidhur, and requiring the aid of our troops for the coercion and punishment of these landholders.

3. Major Richards will, of course, have transmitted to you my several despatches to that officer of the dates noticed in the margin,* and those despatches will have served to apprise you of the important nature of the duties connected with the command which you have assumed.

4. By a despatch which I have received this day from Colonel Frith, it would appear that the arrangements for equipping the battering-train at Purtaubgurh are in a state of considerable forwardness and likely to be concluded very soon, when a formidable force to be detached from the two stations of Purtaubgurh and Sultanpore will take the field and proceed without delay to Akburpore, for the purpose of quelling the insurgents in that quarter and depriving them of the possession of their forts.

5. But, in the mean time, it seems highly expedient that you should adopt every measure in your power to support the authority of the Ameens in the several districts around you, by furnishing detachments of your corps for the performance of every service required that can be executed without the hazard of a failure.

6. A copy of this despatch will be forwarded to Colonel Frith for his information, and you will be pleased to maintain a regular correspondence with that officer, on whose professional judgment and experience, and particularly on his knowledge of the state of the country and character of the people around you, I have great reason to rely for the most useful suggestions to you regarding the mode of proceeding to be adopted for the early and successful accomplishment of the object of those instructions.

Lucknow,
17th December 1814.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Major Muller.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 17th instant. I would have done so sooner, but delayed till now, in order to acquaint you with Major Richards' departure this morning with the fleet of treasure boats under his charge.

As some suspicion had arisen in Major Richards' mind, as well as in my own, respecting the intentions of Surboodoom Sing and his associates when the fleet should pass under his fort at Dooarka, about sixteen coss from this, I offered Major Richards to accompany him (by land) with a detachment from the battalion under my command to the British frontier in the Jounpore district. The Major accepted the proposal, and accordingly four companies (about two hundred rank and file) from the first battalion of the Second Regiment marched early this morning under the command of Lieutenant Gerard (my quarter-master) and another officer to Popperghaut, with orders to remain there till the fleet arrived and then accompany it to our frontier, keeping as near to the river (particularly opposite to Dooarka) as circumstances would permit. After Lieutenant Gerard has performed this part of his duty he is directed to cross the river

* 15th and 30th August, 1st September, and 1st December 1814.

river Goomty with the Ameen, Hafiz Alee Khan, into the purgunnah of Aldemow, and assist him to arrange and settle the district, but on no account to undertake any hostile measures; and, above all, not to meddle with Surboodoom Sing, &c. &c. unless he should find them disposed to behave as good subjects.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
17 Jan. 1815.

Letter from
Major Muller.

From every information I can obtain, the fall or surrender of Dooarka will be the signal for all other ghurries in Aldemow and Akburpore to do the same; but the force which I have at present here is so very much reduced by the completing of the grenadiers who have gone to Cawnpore, recruiting parties, and instructors at our numerous drills, that nothing of effect can be undertaken, unless strongly reinforced from other quarters, and yet it appears absolutely necessary to proceed as early as possible to coercive measures against the rebels, who have so repeatedly behaved ill and set the Vizier's officers at defiance.

Agreeably to your instructions I have communicated the substance of this letter to Colonel Frith, nor shall I fail to correspond with him on all points connected with the public service.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
21st December 1814.

(Signed) F. R. MULLER,
Major, commanding at Sultanpore.

Extract from a Letter from Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, dated the 20th of December 1814.

Letter from
Colonel Frith

I beg leave further to acquaint you that Khajah Hafiz Alee Khan, the Ameen of Aldemow in the Akburpore district, sent a confidential person (Moolwee Meher Alee) to represent the refractory state of the Zemindars of that district, and the necessity of the immediate aid of a military force in support of the Nawaub's authority and to prevent heavy loss in the revenue. I informed him that I only waited for the arrival from Cawnpore of the equipments for the battering-train, when I would move with a strong force into that district; but as it is quite uncertain when the battering-train can be ready, he earnestly urged that I should move into the district with such force as was immediately disposablc, and let the battering-train follow afterwards, if it should be found necessary. He assured me there were no guns in any of the forts, and that they would all submit on the appearance of a British force, particularly if I went in command of it myself: and as the detachments lately sent out have been so successful, I am willing to try what can be done without the heavy ordnance, if you approve of it, in which case I purpose moving after the return of Lieutenant Grant's detachment, with such force as can be conveniently spared from this post and Sultanpore into the Akburpore and Aldemow districts. Should you sanction this measure, some bildars will be necessary and coolies to carry the scaling-ladders, which I hope his Excellency will be pleased to order the Ameen to provide.

Major Richards being still at Sultanpore and under some apprehension of being attacked by the Zemindars as he passed down the Goomty with the treasure, I recommended his taking a reinforcement of two or three companies from Major Muller's battalion on the boats until he got into the Company's territory, when they might return by land to their post. This was two days ago, and I have not since heard of his departure, but suppose he must be off by this time, and make no doubt of his passing down unmolested. The object, however, being of importance, I deemed it proper to recommend a safe course.

The situation of affairs in the Aldemow district requiring immediate aid to the Ameen's authority, I shall write to Major Muller this day to detach into that district, on the return of such party as he may have sent with Major Richards, five or six companies with the field pieces attached to his battalion, to support Khajah Hafiz Alee Khan until I can join them with what cavalry and infantry can be spared from this post, with instructions to the officer who may

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command to endeavour to prevail upon the Zemindars to come in and settle with the Ameen, but not risk an attack on any fort, unless quite sure of success, until reinforced.

I have heard nothing further from General Stafford in regard to the equipment of the battering-train, and fear there will be a further delay.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

Extract from a Letter from Colonel Frith commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, dated the 23d of December 1814.

I have the honour to transmit for your information the copy of a letter I received last night from Lieutenant Grant, an arzee from Ishuree Bukhsh, or Ishuree Sing, for his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier; and also one from him to my address, on the subject of which I hope his Excellency will be pleased to send instructions to Nuneit Roy to make a settlement with Ishuree Bukhsh on equitable terms. An arzee from Nuneit Roy is also enclosed.

I have the honour further to acquaint you, that I received last night from Major-General Stafford the copy of a letter from the Adjutant-General, intimating that the calls upon the Ordnance Department would not admit of the battering-train at this post being equipped for service just now, consequently the expedition into the Akburpore and Aldemow districts must be relinquished until next season. However, as Major Muller informs me that he has sent four companies of sepoy with Hafiz Alee Khan into the Aldemow district, under the command of an intelligent officer, I hope the revenue will sustain no material injury from the delay.

True extracts :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Bart., K.B, Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the enclosed duplicate of a despatch of this date addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
30th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st instant, which reached me only to-day, and I regret that I could not have foreseen the difficulty which has recently arisen regarding the equipment of the battering-train at Purtaubgurh, when my first instructions were issued to the commanding officer at that station, in compliance with the requisition of the Vizier, for the support of his Excellency's officers and the suppression of his rebellious Zemindars.

2. My despatch of the 28th instant will have served to apprise his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of the apparently urgent necessity of a compliance with the Vizier's requisition for the suppression of one Zemindar who has long resisted his authority, and would seem to have meditated an attack against a detachment of the Honourable Company's troops proceeding with treasure to the Presidency. Surboodoom Sing, Talookadar of Doorka, is the person to whom I allude; and the subjection of this person to the authority of the Vizier's Government, while it seems an object of essential importance to the restoration of the general tranquillity and realization of the public revenue in the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow, is a measure impracticable, I apprehend, save by the united operation for a time of the

the troops at Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, with the assistance of the battering guns which remain to be equipped at Purtaubgurh.

3. It is possible, however, that my recent instructions to Major Muller, and the measure adopted by that officer for the reinforcement of the escort with treasure, may have awed the Zemindar of Dooarka into a conduct more submissive to his sovereign and more consistent with his duty as a subject than that which he has hitherto pursued, and that the necessity for further operations may be thus happily superseded. At all events, I beg you to assure his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of my implicit attention in future to the purport of his Lordship's commands, and also of my zealous endeavours to satisfy the mind of the Vizier on the subject of all future requisitions from his Excellency for the aid of the British troops, without directing any military operations that can occasion the smallest inconvenience of the nature described in your despatch.

I have, &c.

Lucknow, (Signed) J. BAILLIE,
30th December 1814. Resident.

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17 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 14th February 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, a duplicate of my despatch of this date to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency, (Signed) J. BAILLIE,
1st February 1815. Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
14 Feb. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copy of a letter (circular) under date the 21st ultimo, which I addressed to the commanding-officers of the several military stations in the territory of his Excellency the Vizier, in compliance with his Excellency's requisition, and in consequence of his recent appointment of Nazims, or collectors and magistrates, to the principal districts of his dominions.

2. I take this opportunity of submitting to the notice of his Lordship copies of my recent correspondence with Colonels Frith and Burrell and Major Lamborne, on the subject of the proceedings of those officers in support of the arrangements of reform, which have hitherto proceeded most successfully, notwithstanding the extraordinary disadvantages to which the measures of this Government have been subjected by the removal of so large a proportion of the usual quota of our troops from the duties of the interior of Oude.

3. The districts of Akburpore and Aldemow form the only exception to the remark which is stated in the foregoing paragraph. Those districts were in a state of disorder, if not of actual insurrection and rebellion, during a period of several years before the introduction of the reform, and the want of a sufficient force to reduce some powerful landholders in Akburpore, who are still in arms against the Government, has proved the only obstacle, in my opinion, to the complete and satisfactory establishment of the new system of administration throughout the dominions of the Vizier in the course of the present season.

4. I have hopes, however, of the accomplishment of this great and beneficial purpose without any additional force, by the measures which his Excellency the Vizier has recently adopted with my concurrence, as referred to in the
enclosures

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enclosures of this despatch, and more particularly under the influence of the instructions which have been issued at my suggestion to the Nazims.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
1st February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh.

Sir:

1. Among the arrangements of his Excellency the Vizier for the better administration of his revenues, the appointment of Nazims, or Zillahdars, to perform the functions of collector and magistrate and to control the proceedings of the Tehsildars in the several districts of his dominions, is a measure which has long been in contemplation, and has recently been carried into effect, by the appointment of several natives of superior rank and consideration to execute the offices described: and of these, Rajah Bhowanee Pershaud has been nominated, and is now about to proceed, to the Zillah of Purtaubgurh and Sultanpore.

2. On the Rajah's arrival in his district he will have the honour of presenting or transmitting this letter to you, and is in future to be considered by you as the constituted local authority over all the districts around you, and the medium of all communications respecting the state of the Zillah at large, and of requisitions for the assistance of the troops.

3. You will accordingly be pleased to afford to him your uniform countenance and support in the discharge of the duties of his office, to consider him as the local representative of the Government in the Zillah of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, and as vested with authority to decide in all matters of revenue and police, and in disputes of every description between the subordinate officers and Zemindars; and you will further be pleased to comply with the Rajah's eventual requisitions for the aid of the British troops, in such cases as may appear to require it, with a view to maintain his authority in the districts committed to his charge.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st January 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Of the same tenor and date, to Lieutenant-Colonel Muller, commanding the troops at Sultanpore.

Of the same tenor and date (regarding the appointment of Meer Jaafer Alee Khan as Nazim of Baraitch and its dependencies), to Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the troops at Secrora.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh.

Sir:

1. In continuation of the subject of my letter under date the 21st ultimo, I have now the honour of informing you, that his Excellency the Vizier has been pleased to appoint Kooar Ruttun Chund to the office of Nazim or Zillahdar of all the districts of Byswarra, including Barellie and Dalmow.

2. Kooar Ruttun Chund is the son-in-law of Rajah Dya-Krishen, his Excellency the Vizier's Dewan, and is entitled on this account, as well as by the important nature of the office which he holds, to distinguished notice and consideration. He will have the honour of presenting or transmitting this letter to you shortly after his arrival in the district, and you will be pleased to receive and consider him as placed in the same situation, and as exercising similar authority

authority in the districts that are under his charge, with Rajah Bhowanee Pershaud in the districts of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh.

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I have, &c,

Lucknow,
1st February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq. Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

Sir :

The detachment under my command being ordered by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to march to Saharunpore and Nahan, and in consequence having returned to Seetapore from the services on which it was employed in the districts of Sandee, Pallee, and Bangur, pursuant to the orders of his Excellency the Vizier, and your instructions, I consider it to be my duty, in justice to the Ameen of Sandee, Kootb-ood-Deen Hussun, to report to you for his Excellency's information, that through his zeal, exertions, and good conduct, the district of Sandee was restored to peace and tranquillity, and all the orders of his Government carried into execution ; and further, that by his aid, and the good conduct of Juswunt Sing, Ameen of Pallee, this district has been also speedily restored to peace and good order.

I have also much pleasure in reporting to you, that the great abilities and experience of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, Zillahdar, aided by the Ameen Agha Jan, with only two companies of my detachment under the command of Captain Lloyd, and the troops of his Excellency the Nawaub, brought the district of Bangur into such a state of peace and good order, as to enable him to dispense with the services of the two companies above-mentioned, by which means the corps under my command will commence its march for the important service it is ordered upon two days sooner than it otherwise could.

The pay of the troops for November, Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan had all ready on the arrival of the detachment at Tandeeawn, which was not detained a moment on that account.

In justice to Mirza Hadee, the Ameen of Loharpore, permit me to mention, that when the three flank companies of my corps were in November last ordered to proceed upon service, and he heard they would be detained some days for pay (which had not, when the orders for their march was received, left Lucknow), he immediately stepped forward and said they should not be delayed on that account, and offered the amount, which I gladly accepted, giving him my receipt for the same. I would and ought to have acquainted you with this circumstance (so much to the credit of Mirza Hadee) when it occurred, but he prevented me.

During the whole time the detachment was employed, both officers and men received every attention they could wish for, and I am happy to say, their very soldierly and conciliatory behaviour gave great satisfaction to every body at the different places of encampment. Permit me to assure you, Sir, that I am most highly gratified by your approval of my own conduct for having used my endeavours to accomplish your wishes, which have been so beneficial to his Highness's Government and done so much good to his subjects.

With my most thankful acknowledgment for the very essential aid I received from you, by the admirable mode you had the goodness to point out for the commanding-officer's conduct, when acting with the Zillahdar and Ameens of the Government of Oude, by following which I was prevented from erring, and performed the small part I had to act with success,

I have, &c.

Seetapore,
20th January 1815.

(Signed) L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding the Troops at Seetapore.

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Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

To J. Baillie, Esq. Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to report to you that Major Lamborne, with the detachment of the second battalion of the Twenty-fourth Regiment Native Infantry under his command, marched into cantonments yesterday morning. The surveys will be completed to-day, and he will proceed to-morrow with his detachment and guns towards Tundeeawn, where I expect he will arrive on the 24th instant.

Major Lamborne has been furnished with all the necessary instructions for his guidance after his arrival at Tundeeawn.

I am in hopes the battalion under my command will be ready to march on the 23d instant, completely equipped for field service.

I have, &c.

Seetapore,
21st January 1815

(Signed)

L. BURRELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding at Seetapore.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

To J. Baillie, Esq. Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you that the detachment employed in the Bilkhur purgunnah returned to cantonments yesterday, the Ameen having settled with Dewan Zubber Sing, Bundeeshury Bukhsh, and some other Zemindars, who were backward in the payment of their revenue.

I have also the honour to acquaint you, that at the requisition of Meer Imām Alee, the Ameen of Purtaubghur, a detachment, consisting of a troop of cavalry and a company of sepoy, marched yesterday against some Zemindars in this district, who have manifested a refractory disposition and have been backward in the payment of their rents.

I have likewise to acquaint you, that Sheikh Shoojaut Alee, the Ameen of Manickpore, has applied for a force to go against Sewdut Sing, the Talookadar of Kuttoa, who is represented as being employed in repairing his fort and shewing other signs of a refractory disposition, and that I have in consequence ordered a detachment of cavalry and infantry to march to-morrow for the purpose of putting a stop to these proceedings.

Captain-Lieutenant Grant with the detachment under his command is still actively employed in putting Nuneit Roy in possession of ghurries (in order to be dismantled), which enable the Zemindars to resist the authority of Government.

I have further to report for your information, that the officers commanding the different detachments sent out from this post, as well as the Ameens employed in the different districts, represent the Nawaub's troops stationed with them to assist in the collection of the revenue as being in a most insubordinate and mutinous state ; that they will not attend to or obey any order, but plunder the villagers of their property and destroy the fields of grain in the most mischievous manner, and that they are consequently detested by the inhabitants, who are frequently forced by their oppression and injustice into resistance which they never intended ; and it is but justice to the Zemindars to state, that wherever the Company's troops have appeared they have submitted peaceably and delivered up their forts, on the mere assurance of the officer commanding that their persons and property would be protected.

I have, &c.

Purtaubghur,
18th January 1815.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding at Purtaubghur.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubghur.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 18th instant, announcing the return of your detachment which was employed in the purgunnah

purgunnah of Bilkhur after performing the service required, as also your compliance with requisitions from the Ameens of Purtaubghur and Manickpore for the support of their authority in these districts. Translations of this and of your former official letter, under date the 7th instant, have been submitted to his Excellency the Vizier, and his Excellency has desired me to convey to you his thanks for the readiness which you evince, and the judicious measures which you have adopted, to support the proceedings of his officers with a view to the realization of his revenue.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. Measures are in train of adoption for the reform of his Excellency's troops, and will, I hope, have the desired effect of restraining their irregular conduct in the villages, as well as of improving their general discipline and ensuring their subordination to the Ameens.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
23d January 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

Sir :

I have the honour to acquaint you, that the detachment which marched on the 17th instant against several Zemindars in this district, at the requisition of the Ameen, has returned to cantonments, having satisfactorily effected the objects for which it was detached. I have also to acquaint you, that the officer commanding the detachment in the Manickpore district reports that Sewdut Sing had on his approach evacuated the fort of Kuttola, and had come to a settlement with the Ameen ; and that there appearing to be no further employment for the detachment in that district, I have directed the officer in command to proceed with it into the Dalmow district, to the support of the Ameen, Omrow Sing, who has sent a list of seven Zemindars who are backward in the payment of their rents, and in other respects refractory as he represents.

I have further to acquaint you, that the hostile intentions manifested by Shew Gholam Sing, the Zemindar of Shah Gurh, has obliged me to detach this morning, to reinforce Captain Grant, two companies of sepoys and the two six-pounders, which I hope will enable him to effect a speedy and satisfactory settlement, or if necessary punish the offender.

I have likewise to acquaint you, that the Magistrate at Elahabad has requested assistance for the purpose of seizing the chief of the decoits who plundered the treasure proceeding from Elahabad to this place some years ago, and whose haunt has lately been discovered. A small party of cavalry and infantry will accordingly march on this duty to-morrow morning.

I have, &c.

Purtaubghur,
25th January 1815.

(Signed) R. FRITH,
Colonel, commanding.

To Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubghur.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter received from Lieutenant Gerard, commanding the troops at Sultanpore, and a copy of my answer to that letter.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th January 1815,

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
14 Feb. 1815.

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I did myself the honour to acquaint you, a few days ago, of the command of the troops at this station having devolved to me, as senior officer, on the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel Muller; it is therefore incumbent on me now to inform you of the state of affairs here at the time I assumed charge, that I may be guided by your instructions, particularly with respect to the future measures necessary to be pursued in effecting the reduction of the numerous refractory Zemindars of the adjoining districts, especially those of Aldemow, who are in such a rebellious state and have been allowed to remain so long so, that the most petty landholders in it refuse to come to any kind of adjustment for the payment of their arrears of revenue with the Aumil, without a military force being employed to bring them to a due sense of their duty and submission to his authority. Many of them are in some degree become independent and set the Government at open defiance, which they are enabled to continue, by appropriating the revenue to the maintenance of considerable bodies of armed men to defend themselves when attacked, and to carry on a species of plundering warfare against their more peaceable neighbours, by which means they are also enabled to increase and support their adherents and fortify their villages. I take the liberty to observe, that the longer they are permitted to remain in this turbulent state, the greater will be the force required, and the more difficulties there will be to overcome in their reduction.

I entertain no doubt but Lieutenant-Colonel Muller, previous to his departure, duly communicated to you the operations of the detachment late under my command and at present under that of Lieutenant Robinson, which had the effect, without proceeding to extremities, of inducing Madhoo Sing, Talookadar of Dehrah, a man of considerable note in the district, to liquidate the sum of 10,000 rupees of his arrears of revenue, which I have no doubt will have some influence on others to follow his example. Since my arrival in cantonments, having been recalled for the purpose of receiving charge, the detachment before-mentioned has proceeded against Ishuree Bukhsh, Talookadar of Purnesputtee, distant about a coss and a half from Dehrah, who upon the approach of our troops deserted his village, in which he had fortified his house, and fled to an adjacent wood. A party was secretly detached on the night of the 29d to seize his person, if possible; but although completely surprised, he had the good fortune to effect his escape, and after having wandered about for some days has now taken refuge with his relation the rebellious Zemindar of Dooarka. Several of his followers with arms in their hands were laid hold of, and have been delivered to the Aumil, Hafiz Alee Khan.

The principal object of my thus addressing you is to represent the inadequacy of the force at present in the district of Aldemow under Lieutenant Robinson to proceed to active operations against the more powerful refractory Zemindars of Dooarka and Bidhur, who have not made the least attempt towards a reconciliation, nor have they shewed any disposition to liquidate their arrears of revenue, but on the contrary are daily strengthening themselves in their possessions and entertaining men to resist the just demands of Government. When dislodged from their present strong holds, it is their intention, I am given to understand, to seek refuge in the territories of the Honourable Company, where they are equally landholders as well as in the dominions of his Excellency the Nawaub.

In case the light companies in Oude are not called for to proceed on immediate service, as it was supposed they would be some days ago, Colonel Frith having advised that the company at this post should be held in readiness for that purpose, it can hereafter be spared to assist the detachment in Aldemow in the collection of the revenue and reduction of the refractory Zemindars.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
26th January 1815.

(Signed) JOHN GERARD,
Lieutenant, commanding at Sultanpore.

To

To Lieutenant Gerard, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 26th instant, and I beg your acceptance of my thanks for this early and explicit communication of the state of affairs in your district, which was rendered peculiarly desirable by the scanty communications to this office of your predecessor in the command of the troops.

2. I was fully aware of and regretted the inadequacy of the force under your command, which is now commanded by Lieutenant Robinson, to the reduction of the refractory landholders in the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow ; but, under the instructions which I had issued to Colonel Frith, I calculated on that officer's being enabled to detach a force to your aid, or to proceed in person to Aldemow, for the purpose of conducting the military operations in that quarter to a speedy and successful conclusion. In this expectation I have been necessarily hitherto disappointed by the numerous calls on Colonel Frith from the Vizier's officers in his neighbourhood for the aid of the troops under his command, and I have been induced by the Colonel's reports of the duties which he has had to perform, as well as by the state of the districts in the neighbourhood of the station of Sultanpore, to suspend the instructions which I had issued for the detachment of your light company and that of the battalion at Purtaubgurh to reinforce Major-General Wood.

3. This latter measure will, I presume, have been announced to you by Colonel Frith before your receipt of this letter, and will have enabled you to reinforce Lieutenant Robinson to the extent which you describe, should you deem such a reinforcement to be essential to the accomplishment of the objects in view.

4. But I am disposed to rest my hope of the subjection of the refractory landholders in your neighbourhood, and of the speedy restoration of tranquillity in the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow, on an arrangement which has been recently adopted by his Excellency the Vizier, at my suggestion, for the better government of those districts, and which I had the honour of announcing to the commanding-officers of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh in my letters of the 21st instant, delivered to Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud, the newly-appointed Nazim or Zillahdar.

5. This able and experienced officer is now on his way to Purtaubgurh, for the purpose of concerting with Colonel Frith the plan of operations to be adopted for the subjection of the refractory Zemindars and restoration of tranquillity in his districts, and you will receive from Colonel Frith in due time a communication of his sentiments and instructions on such parts of the duty to be performed as may be expected from the troops under your orders.

6. I rely with confidence on your able and zealous execution of the duties to be assigned to you by Colonel Frith, to whom a copy of this despatch shall be transmitted.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th January 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Major Lamborne.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 25th instant, reporting your arrival at Tundeeawn and detachment of two companies of sepoys, in compliance with the requisition of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, for the support of his deputy Agha Jan.

2. The peaceable state of the district of Khyrabad, as reported by Colonel Burrell before your arrival, and referred to in your recent despatches, supercedes the necessity for my detaining you in the command of the detachment at Tundeeawn, and you will be pleased to deliver over the command to the

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next senior officer who may be present with it, and proceed to join your corps at Cawnpore.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell having remained in command of the station at Seetapore under the special authority of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and with my entire approbation, you will be pleased to direct the officer commanding at Tundeeawn, and all other officers of your detachment employed on separate duties in the districts of Pallee and Khyrabad, to report their proceedings to Colonel Burrell and to consider themselves as under his orders.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th January 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

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EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th February 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.
Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting for your information a duplicate of my despatch of this date to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
7th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

In continuation of the subject of my despatches of the 31st ultimo and 1st instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed extracts from a despatch which I have this day received from Colonel Frith, commanding the troops at Purtaubgurh.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

Extract from a Letter from Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, to Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, dated the 4th February 1815.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo with enclosures, to which due attention shall be paid. I am happy to learn from private accounts that the detachment employed in the Aldemow district has been making considerable progress of late in the settlement of that quarter.

I have also the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo by express, and to acquaint you that the necessary orders were immediately given for recalling the several detachments of cavalry : having last night received the orders of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Eighth Regiment of Cavalry will march towards Goruckpore, under the command of Major O'Brien, as soon as pay arrives and the several detachments join, which I hope will be in three or four days.

I have much satisfaction in acquainting you that the fort of Shah-Gurh was evacuated on the 1st instant. Captain Grant's official report I have the honour to enclose for your information. To the temper and moderation observed by him on this occasion, as well as to the judgment and ability with which he has conducted

conducted the whole of the service upon which he has lately been employed, I feel greatly indebted.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Feb. 1815.

The detachment sent out to seize the notorious offender Bhloodhie, at the requisition of the Magistrate of Elahabad, returned to cantonments yesterday, having failed in the object for which it was sent out, owing to the offender having taken refuge in a small fort in the Begum's jagier to which they were refused admittance.

Letter from
Colonel Frith.

No complaints have lately been made against any of the Zemindars in the districts dependent on this post; and as the new Zillahdar appears to be very popular, I hope the collections will be realized without further trouble, or any calls of consequence on the Company's troops.

I beg leave to acquaint you that I have received orders from his Excellency the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to proceed with all convenient expedition to the command to which I had the honour of being appointed lately by Government, and that I propose leaving this on the 5th instant and proceeding by the route of Lucknow.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract from a Letter from Captain Grant, commanding a Detachment at Ahmety, to Colonel Frith, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, dated the 2d February 1815.

Letter from
Captain Grant.

I had yesterday the honour to report to you that the ghurry of Shah-Gurh had been evacuated, about eleven o'clock A. M., by Sew Gholam Sing and his followers, and my having placed two companies in it under Lieutenant Baumgardt, whom I directed to remain in the place with the Ameen until the works shall have been completely destroyed and the ditch filled up. The ghurry was given up solely through the negotiation of Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud's Vakeel, who came into my camp yesterday morning and informed me that his master had sent him to the fort to desire that it might be given up, which the owner, Sew Gholam Sing, immediately agreed to do, provided a guard of the Company's sepoy should be sent in to protect some private property which was to be left in the place.

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 7th March 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government in the Political Department.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Sir:

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, and for record, the accompanying copy of a letter addressed this day to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to his despatches of the 1st and 7th instant, by command of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

I have, &c.

Camp, Futtypore, Sikree,
18th February 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 1st and 7th instant, detailing the measures which have been taken for establishing an improved system of administration throughout the territories of his Excellency

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, and I have it in command from the Right Honourable the Governor-General to express to you his Lordship's entire satisfaction in having learned the progress which has already been made in the establishment of the new system, notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances under which the reform was attempted, in consequence of the exigencies of the public service having occasioned the removal of a large proportion of the British force usually stationed in Oude.

2. You will be pleased to express to his Excellency the Vizier the satisfaction felt by the Governor-General on this occasion, and to state his Excellency's hope that no consideration will induce his Excellency to abandon a plan so pregnant with advantage to his interests, and hitherto so successfully pursued.

I have, &c.

Camp, Futtypore, Sikree,
18th February 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 21st March 1815.

Ordered, That the following letter from the Resident at Lucknow, enclosing duplicates of despatches to Mr. Secretary Adam, be here recorded, with exception to one of the 28th February, which has been transferred to the Secret Proceedings of this date.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed duplicate of a despatch which I addressed to the Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department, under date the 25th instant.

Duplicates of two letters to Mr. Adam, of this date, are also transmitted for your notice.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
28th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir:

In further continuation of the subject of my despatch under date the 1st instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of letters, more recently received from and written to the commanding-officers of our troops at the several stations in the interior. I add, for his Lordship's information, some copies of letters which have passed between me and the Magistrate of Jounpore.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I have had the honour to receive your public letter, under date the 28th ultimo, acquainting me with the plan of arrangements in agitation to effect the reduction of the neighbouring Zemindars and to restore tranquillity to the surrounding districts, which is a measure daily becoming more desirable, and the longer protracted, will, of course, become still more difficult in the execution.

I have been in constant expectation of being favoured with some communication from Colonel Frith, relative to the accomplishment of this object, which I was led to look for from the tenor of your letter. I have, however, been
hitherto

hitherto disappointed in my hopes, and have now relinquished every prospect of hearing from him on this subject, as I perceive by General Orders lately published that he is appointed to the command of the frontier stations of Agra and Muttrah, and am given to understand he has marched from Purtaubgurh for that purpose.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Mar. 1815.

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard

In consequence of Colonel Frith's total silence respecting any preparations that might be in forwardness for the prosecution of this business, nothing has as yet been undertaken by me here towards it, although every thing has been kept in a state of readiness, as I waited for his instructions and the benefit of his advice, particularly as the force at my disposal is inadequate to any effectual operations being commenced against the more powerful Talookadars of Dooarka and Bidhur, upon the submission or reduction of whom, in a great measure, depends that of the whole of the adjacent districts.

Since my last communication, I have little to add respecting the progress of the operations of the detachment at present on service in Aldemow, which has lately been principally employed in forcing the inferior Zemindars to come to a settlement with the Aumil for the liquidation of their arrears of revenue.

I have had no intelligence of the approach of the Nazim, Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud, to this post, except the intimation conveyed in your letter. I trust his exertions may prove successful in restoring tranquillity to the surrounding districts. Be assured nothing shall be wanting on my part, as far as I possess the means, to assist him in his endeavours.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
6th February 1815.

(Signed) JOHN GERARD,
Lieutenant, commanding at Sultanpore.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard

Sir :

I beg to forward, for your information, an extract of a letter received from T. Fortescue, Esq. Magistrate of the zillah of Elahabad, and to acquaint you that I have adopted measures in consequence, in concert with the Aumil of the district (Sultanpore) in which the thieves he wishes to be apprehended reside, for their being taken into custody, and hope it may meet your approbation.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
8th February 1815.

(Signed) J. GERARD,
Lieutenant, commanding at Sultanpore.

To Colonel Kyan, commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Elahabad.

Sir :

I have the honour to enclose a copy of the examination of Purshun Sing and Bulwunt Sing, and to request you will take measures for the apprehension of the persons therein named.

Purshun Sing and Bulwunt Sing, together with a Chuprassee of this Court, will wait upon you for the purpose of pointing out the individuals, and should any suspected property be found, I request you will have it forwarded to me.

I have, &c.

Zillah Elahabad,
31st January 1815.

(Signed) T. FORTESCUE,
Magistrate.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard

Sir :

I did myself the honour to address you on the 6th instant, respecting the progress of the detachment under the command of Lieutenant Robinson, employed in Aldemow, since which period little or nothing has been effected, in consequence of the expected arrival of the Nazim, and the Aumil having proceeded to Jugdeespoor for the purpose of paying his respects to him. I also took the liberty of pointing out the inadequacy of that force for the collection of the

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Mar. 1816.

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard.

revenue and effectual reduction of that turbulent district, unless joined by a considerable reinforcement, without which I do not judge it advisable to direct any operations to be commenced against the more powerful Talookadars, upon whose submission entirely depends that of the inferior Zemindars.

I now beg leave to submit for your consideration, decision, and instructions, the propriety of allowing the detachment to remain out longer, or to withdraw it until a competent force can be spared, and measures adopted for the effectual reduction of the surrounding turbulent districts.

I have not had any intelligence of the approach of the Nazim, Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud, nor when I can expect his arrival at this station.

I did myself the pleasure to forward, in my letter under date the 8th instant, an extract of a requisition from T. Fortescue, Esq., Judge and Magistrate, for the seizure of some thieves who resided in a village about six coss distant from hence, and at the same time acquainting you that I had taken measures, in concert with the Aumil of Sultanpore, for their apprehension. I now beg leave to inform you, that we were fortunate enough to lay hold of two of the persons named, men of no character or consequence, whom I forwarded under escort to Elahabad.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
18th February 1815.

(Signed) J. GERARD,
Lieutenant, commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Lieutenant Gerard, commanding at Sultanpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters that are noted in the margin.*

2. Being aware of the inadequacy of the force which is at present employed in Aldemow to the reduction of the turbulent Zemindars and realization of the revenue in that district, and having also had reason to apprehend that the state of the districts of Purtaubgurh, Ahmety, and Dalmow, would not for the present admit of your receiving any essential aid from Colonel Frith or his successor Major Cumberlege, I could have looked to your detachment for no more than the preservation of that authority which remained to the officers of the Vizier's Government at the date of my former instructions, and which appeared to be sufficient, with the presence of your detachment in Aldemow, to preclude additional disorder, until circumstances might admit of your reinforcement by some troops from the station of Purtaubgurh, or till the arrival of Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud with a considerable force in the district should enable you, in concert with that officer, to adopt more effectual measures than we have hitherto been entitled to expect.

3. Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud has been hitherto prevented from proceeding to the district of Aldemow, by his necessary occupation in the settlement of a number of intermediate districts; but I have every reason to hope that he will soon arrive in your neighbourhood, and after collecting all the troops of the Vizier which are now scattered throughout his districts, will be enabled, with your assistance and advice, and in co-operation with such troops as you can spare, to take such measures as must quickly establish the general tranquillity of the country and reduce the refractory Zemindars.

4. I shall take an early opportunity of submitting to the consideration of his Excellency the Vizier the propriety of his ordering the Nazim to proceed to Sultanpore without delay, and, in the contemplation of his speedy arrival, it seems expedient that the detachment at Aldemow should remain in that district for the present, unless you have reason to apprehend the possibility of its receiving a check (continuing inactive as at present) before the arrival of the Nazim, in which case it must, of course, be recalled to await his arrival at Sultanpore.

5. I

* 6th, 8th, and 18th February 1816.

5. I entirely approve of the measures which you adopted at the requisition of Mr. Fortescue for the seizure of public offenders against our Government, and I am happy to learn their success.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Mar. 1815.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extract from a Letter from Major Cumberlege, commanding the Troops at Puraubgurh, to the Resident at Lucknow, dated the 18th February 1815.

Letter from
Major Cumberlege.

Ensign Jones, who was detached on the 23d ultimo into the Manickpore district to assist the Ameen in his collections, writes me that the Zemindars came in and made their settlements with Omrow Sing to their mutual satisfaction, in consequence of which he moved towards Dalmow, agreeably to former instructions received from Colonel Frith, to bring in some refractory Zemindars, who had been rather backward in their payments and had refused to come to any settlement with the Ameen.

One of these Zemindars, by name Sheo Pershaud of Sunkerpore, whose fort was destroyed about four years ago by Colonel Palmer, has been allowed, through the negligence of the Vizier's officers, to put it again in complete repair. It is said to be very strong and surrounded with jungle; and from his having garrisoned the place with five hundred matchlocks, it does not appear likely that he will agree to have it destroyed, unless compelled by a superior force.

The detachment under Ensign Jones consisting only of one company, and the force under the Ameen being every way contemptible, I have instructed him to avoid hostilities if possible, and endeavour by every means in his power to effect a settlement between the Ameen and Zemindar. It is true I could reinforce him; but not having now above four hundred effective men under my command and two six-pounders, I should consider the whole of it very inadequate to the reduction of a fort of that description; therefore think it better to temporize until a battering train can be procured, or till the arrival of Kooar Ruttun Chund, who may perhaps be furnished with a more respectable force and some heavy guns.

I am sorry to say, that since I have been at this station, every officer who has been sent on command has complained of the insolence and insubordination of the Vizier's troops. They are universally detested and despised, and plunder wherever they go: it is, therefore, very necessary that some reform in their discipline should take place, being in their present state worse than useless, and only formidable to the industrious and peaceable Ryot. One great error, I conceive, in the present system, is that of allowing corps to remain stationary for years together. Those in this district have been ten or twelve years on the same spot, during which time they have never moved, except to attend the Ameens on their collections, and even then half the men can hardly be collected. The guns are in as bad a state as the troops, as Ensign Jones mentions that the one Omrow Sing has with him is in such bad repair that he does not believe the carriage will hold together twenty rounds, should he have occasion to use it.

I have, perhaps, said more on the foregoing subject than may appear to you necessary; but from what I have heard relative to the number of troops in this district belonging to his Excellency the Vizier, if they were only tolerably paid and disciplined, they would be fully sufficient for the collections, which would be a great relief to the regulars.

I have not yet received any communication from Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud, nor do I know what force he has brought with him from Lucknow, but I understand that most of the landholders have attended upon him at Jugdeespore, and that there is every prospect of the revenues being realized in this district. The arrival of Kooar Ruttun Chund in that of Byswarra would tend greatly to facilitate the settlement of that also without further disturbance.

I should

Bengal Political
Consultations,
21 Mar, 1815.

I should be glad of your instructions relative to furnishing detachments. Am I to comply with the requisitions of the Zillahdars or Ameens at once, or wait for your answer on the subject?

A true extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Cumberlege, commanding at Purtaubgurh.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 18th instant, reporting the march of Ensign Jones's detachment towards Dalmow, after effecting a settlement of affairs in the district of Manickpore.

2. I am fully aware of the inadequacy of the detachment at present in Dalmow, even reinforced to the utmost extent which you have the means of reinforcing it, to the reduction of such a fortress as you describe: but I trust that the presence of the detachment, as affording encouragement and support to the officers of the Vizier's Government, may induce Sheo Pershaud to submit, and eventually to surrender his fortress, on the arrival of Kooar Ruttun Chund in the district, attended as that officer will be by a considerable force of the Vizier's to be collected from all the districts surrounding, and I believe by some troops from Lucknow.

3. I am sensible of the justness of your remarks on the state of the troops of the Vizier; and so, indeed, is his Excellency, to whom I have regularly submitted the information on this subject conveyed to me by your predecessor in the command at Purtaubgurh. A reform is meditated, I know; and I shall not fail to take advantage of every opportunity which may offer of urging the necessity of its adoption with the least practicable delay.

4. Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud has been hitherto prevented from proceeding in the direction of your post by his necessary occupation in the settlement of a number of intermediate districts. It is his intention and the command of the Vizier, that he should now proceed to Aldemow with all practicable expedition, to endeavour to restore the tranquillity of that most turbulent district, in which I could wish, if it were practicable, that the detachment from Sultanpore were reinforced by some companies from the battalion at Purtaubgurh. But on this subject it formed a part of my instructions to your predecessor to communicate with the commanding-officer at Sultanpore, and to assist him in as far as might be practicable.

5. In answer to the concluding paragraph of your letter, it seems expedient that the requisitions of the Zillahdars be complied with in all cases where the nature of the required service may be such as to afford the certainty of its immediate accomplishment by the force to be employed, without any hazard of a failure, or necessity for additional troops, or for the aid of a battering-train, which you are aware cannot now be afforded.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Burrell.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have great pleasure in acquainting you that the refractory Zemindars of Neer attended Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan this morning, and submitted to the recent orders of His Excellency the Nawaub for cutting down the jungle in his Zemindary. In consequence of the extreme obstinacy and folly of these Zemindars, in refusing to comply with the orders of their sovereign, after being repeatedly and in the strongest manner advised by the officers of the British Government and that of Oude to return to obedience, it was determined by Hukeem Mehdee and myself that the village (in which were a number of armed men prepared for resistance) should be

be attacked this morning, and the troops of His Excellency were accordingly paraded for the purpose, Captain Buchanan's detachment being ready to support them; when these refractory people, finding they were likely to meet with the punishment they so justly deserved, thought proper to come into camp and make their submission as above-mentioned. Workmen were immediately employed in cutting down the jungle, and a party of His Excellency's troops are now posted in the village. Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan says he wishes to have three companies to remain in the district for some time, but I have recommended to him to keep the whole of the detachment here for the present, which he agrees will be better than a smaller force. I am in hopes that in a short time the greater part of the detachment may return to their cantonments, as the Bangur district may now be considered in a perfect state of tranquillity.

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Consultations,
21. Mar. 1815.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colon
Burrell.

I have, &c.

Camp, Neer,
21st February 1815.

(Signed) L. BURRELL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Seetapore.

P.S. I am under the necessity of returning to Seetapore immediately, on account of the very infirm state of my health.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Burrell, commanding at Seetapore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st instant, conveying the satisfactory intelligence of the submission of the Zemindars of Neer, and the occupation of their village by a party of the Vizier's troops for the purpose of cutting down the jungle, &c., by which it had been heretofore defended, and the Zemindars had been enabled to resist the just authority of the Government.

2. This truly satisfactory result of an affair, which might have occasioned some trouble, is ascribable chiefly, in my opinion, to the effect of your presence in the district, and of the judicious conduct which you pursued during the whole of the recent operations in the districts of Sandee and Khyrabad. I request your acceptance of my thanks for that zeal in the public service which induced you to proceed to Tundeeawn while the state of your health was so indifferent; and with my best and most cordial wishes for your speedy and perfect recovery,

I am, &c.

Lucknow,
24th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To R. O. Wynne, Esq., Judge and Magistrate of Zillah Jounpore.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th instant with its enclosures, and to inform you that a suitable application on the subject of it has been made to his Excellency the Vizier.

2. The necessity for this application might, however, have been superseded, I presume, by a direct requisition from yourself to the Vizier's Nazim of Zillah Sultanpore, in the terms of my letter to your address under date the 14th of December last.

3. I take this opportunity of informing you, that his Excellency the Vizier and his officers in the districts contiguous to your Zillah, have recently often complained of the protection afforded to a number of refractory and defaulting Zemindars by their flight across the frontier of this country into parts of their own estates, and into those of other Zemindars which are within the jurisdiction of your Court, and I deem it to be my duty to suggest to you the propriety of taking

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21 Mar. 1815.

taking measures to put a stop to this serious and ~~encreasing~~ evil with the least practicable delay.

I am, &c.

Lucknow,
20th February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Jounpore.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I solicit your early attention to the accompanying report from my Assistant, Mr. William Lowther, now on deputation at Puttee in the purgunnah of Unglee.

2. You will perceive that this report is in continuation of the proceedings I had the honour to transmit for the information of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier two days ago, and I beg you will do me the favour to suggest to his Highness the advantage and necessity of his directing his public officers and troops to co-operate with those I have sent to that quarter, under command of Lieutenant Burton of the second battalion of the Eighth Regiment of Native Infantry, and also to direct the immediate compliance with all requisitions from Mr. William Lowther for the seizure of the public offenders against our Government who may find refuge in his Excellency's territory.

I have, &c.

Zillah Jounpore,
19th February 1815.

(Signed) R. O. WYNN, Esq.,
Magistrate.

Letter
from Assistant-
Magistrate of
Jounpore.

To R. O. Wynne, Esq., Magistrate of Jounpore.

Sir :

I have the honour to report for your information, that I arrived at Puttee this morning with the military detachment you directed me to accompany, in your letter of instructions of the 15th instant.

We were informed by the Thanadar and others, that Sheodial and his adherents had evacuated their fortified houses and proceeded into the Nawaub Vizier's country, together with all the inhabitants of the large town of Puttee. At an early hour this morning I thought it advisable to proceed with a party of the military to examine two of the ghurries belonging to Sheodial and his brothers. They appear to be places well calculated to hold out against any others than regular sepoys: they are built on the scale of the old forts which were destroyed some years ago by Captain Patrickson: the walls are of mud with loop-holes for matchlock firing. I am given to understand that the Rajkoomars are in some force at no great distance from this. Directions have been given to the Thanadars to place Burkundauzes in the town, to see that none of the camp-followers or others enter the houses for the sake of plunder, and I have thought it expedient to issue a proclamation, a copy of which accompanies this.

The country round appears to be in a high state of cultivation and the crops nearly ready for the siekle. You may think proper, eventually, to make them over to the actual Talookadar. I speak of that tract which is at present in the possession of Sheodial and his brothers. Should, however, this be your intention, the presence of a force will be necessary to protect the harvest people. From the appearance of the fortified houses belonging to Sheodial and his adherents, I should recommend for your consideration that they be entirely demolished before the return of the military detachment to Jounpore.

I beg to be favoured with any further instructions you may have to communicate.

I have, &c.

Camp, Puttee,
18th February 1815.

(Signed) W. LOWTHER,
Assistant Magistrate.

P.S. The accounts of the Rajkoomars having entrenched themselves are entirely incorrect, and generally the statements sent were exaggerated.

To

To R. O. Wynne, Esq. Judge and Magistrate of Zillah Jounpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 19th instant with its enclosure, a continuation of the proceedings of your court conveyed by a former despatch, which had been already submitted to the Vizier.

2. The Nazim of Sultanpore and of all the districts to the eastward, Rajah Barwanee Pershaud, an able and intelligent officer who has recently been appointed to that station, is now proceeding towards Aldemow, contiguous to the frontier of your Zillah, where a considerable detachment of our troops is at present employed in the reduction of some turbulent and rebellious Zemindars, and where the Nazim, on his arrival, is instructed to co-operate zealously with Mr. Lowther, in the first instance, for the seizure of the delinquent Sheodial, and afterwards to require Mr. Lowther's assistance and the support of your authority for the apprehension of any defaulters against the Government of his Excellency the Vizier, who have found an asylum in your district.

3. It is superfluous to repeat the suggestion which was offered in my former despatch, of the great advantage that must arise to the interests of both States from the zealous and cordial co-operation of the public officers of both in the seizure of offenders against either, who seek refuge in the territory of the other. I have impressed both his Excellency the Vizier and his Excellency's Nazim of Sultanpore with a perfect conviction of this truth; and the latter is prepared, if I mistake not, to co-operate most cordially with you on every future occasion. A similar disposition on your part, which I am fully persuaded that you entertain, will, I trust, speedily lead to the entire and successful accomplishment of the objects of both parties.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st February 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th March 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, a duplicate of a despatch of this date, which I have addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
9th March 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government, in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. I have the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the enclosed copies of letters received from Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege, commanding the troops at Purtaubgurh, containing a report of a mutiny among the troops of his Excellency the Vizier employed with the Nazim of Purtaubgurh. It is satisfactory to me to be enabled to add, that the mutiny would appear to have subsided at the date of my last account; in consequence of the judicious measure adopted by Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege of detaching a portion of our troops to support the Nazim's authority.

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Consultations,
21 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. I have also the honour of transmitting to you a copy of a letter received this day from the commanding-officer of the troops at Sultanpore, with a copy of the enclosure of that letter, detailing the attack and evacuation of the fortified town of Gopaulpore in the district of Aldemow, occasioned, as it appears, by an outrage on the part of the inhabitants of that town against the camp-followers of a detachment of our troops, which the commanding-officer of the detachment, in concert with the civil authority of the district, considered it to be his duty to punish, without awaiting the orders of his superior officer at Sultanpore, or the result of a reference to me.

3. As connected with the subject of the concluding paragraph of Lieutenant Robinson's letter to Captain Gerard, I add, for his Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Judge and Magistrate of Jounpore.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th March 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter from
MajorCumberlege.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The enclosed copy of an express from Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud reached me at twelve o'clock last night, and upon questioning the Hurkarras, having reason to believe that the mutiny in his camp was of an alarming nature, and if not speedily checked might occasion serious consequences and prove prejudicial to the Rajah's authority in the district, I immediately ordered Captain Grant to proceed with five companies and the two six-pounders to his assistance, and have the pleasure to inform you that the whole marched by three o'clock this morning.

2. I expect to receive accounts from Captain Grant in a few hours, and will let you know the result immediately.

3. It is stated to me that the mutiny arose from the Rajah's dismissing a toomun for plundering, but I have yet no accounts that can be depended upon. I have, however, instructed Captain Grant to support the Rajah's authority at all risks, being well convinced of the disorderly conduct manifested on all occasions by his Excellency the Vizier's troops.

4. Should the mutiny not be immediately quelled, I intend proceeding myself to his camp to give him my countenance and support, and shall call upon the officer commanding at Sultanpore for reinforcements, as I have none left at this station but recruits.

5. I hope you will approve of the steps I have taken on this occasion.

I have, &c.

Purtaubgurh,
5th March 1815, 11½ A.M.

(Signed) N. CUMBERLEGE,
Major, commanding.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the pleasure to forward you Captain Grant's report this instant received, and trust that every thing will soon be settled.

The detachment arrived in very good time. The sepoy who brought the letter informs me that only about 1,300 had joined the mutineers, and that Captain Grant had encamped between them and the camp of the Rajah, and that since their arrival no more had joined them.

As

As I have none but recruits for the protection of the station, I shall recall Captain Grant with three companies as soon as I can do it with safety, leaving two companies under the command of an European officer with the Rajah. I do not hear that any have been killed, though the sepoy informs me that fourteen or fifteen have been severely wounded.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Mar. 1815.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Cumberlege.

I have, &c.

Purtaubgurh,
5th March 1815, 5 o'clock P.M.

(Signed) N. CUMBERLEGE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding.

Extract from a Letter from Captain Grant, commanding a Detachment at Deemah, to Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, dated the 5th of March 1815.

Letter from
Captain Grant.

I have the honour to report to you the arrival of the detachment under my command here this morning at seven o'clock. The mutiny amongst Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud's troops has in a great measure subsided, and matters are likely to take a favourable turn, though I regret to find that the mutineers still appear to be inclined to hostilities; but Bhuwanee Pershaud says that he is in hopes every thing will be amicably adjusted in the course of the forenoon.

True extract :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extracts from Letters from Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, to the Resident at Lucknow, dated the 6th March 1815.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Cumberlege.

From the report of Captain Grant received this morning, I am in hopes every thing will be speedily adjusted, as all hostilities had ceased, though the mutineers had not returned to their duty.

As Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud does not seem to wish for reinforcements, I have not called upon the officer commanding at Sultanpore for assistance. Indeed, it rather appears to me that the Rajah is inclined to think any further interference would but increase the disaffection of his Excellency the Vizier's troops, in consequence of which I have abstained from proceeding to camp as I had intended.

I beg again to say, that I should not hesitate a moment in going out to the Rajah's camp could I be of the smallest service to him; but as every circumstance relative to the mutiny has been referred to the Nawaub for his decision, I do not consider my presence at all necessary. I have also to state, that having made every inquiry relative to the mutiny, not the smallest blame can be in any way attached to Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud: indeed, every part of his conduct since he has been in this neighbourhood has been such as to give satisfaction, and I consider him every way fit for the situation he is placed in. It is only to be lamented that the troops of his Excellency the Vizier are in so disorderly and mutinous a state that the Rajah cannot possibly place the smallest dependence upon them.

True extracts :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Mar. 1815.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter from
Lieutenant Gerard.

I have the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a public letter received yesterday from Lieutenant Robinson, commanding the force detached from this station in Aldemow. I have little to add to the detailed account therein contained of the operations against the strong hold of Gopaulpore, but to express my satisfaction at the steady behaviour of the troops engaged, as mentioned by Lieutenant Robinson, and to regret the casualties that have unfortunately happened in this affair, although of a trifling nature considering the numerous party that defended a place of such strength and so difficult of access.

The Jemadar who was wounded is, I am happy to acquaint you, doing extremely well, and I entertain little doubt of his speedy recovery; so that the total loss we shall have sustained on our part on this occasion will be, I hope, only one sepoy killed.

I trust that the example made by the necessary measures adopted on this occasion, will have its due influence in restraining such unprovoked and outrageous treatment in future, by the turbulent and lawless Zemindars of that district, of the public servants attending the detachment, who could seldom venture from camp in the performance of their duty, without meeting with the like maltreatment and violence of the villagers, who no doubt were instigated to such conduct by their refractory superiors, as appears to have been the case in the present instance from the positive refusal (and menaces of the head Zemindar of Gopaulpore) to deliver up, when demanded, the delinquents to the authority of the Aumil, upon his requiring him to do so in a regular and peaceable manner.

I am informed that the villagers of Gopaulpore had the audacity and unprovoked insolence to maltreat several of the public servants who went merely to their village, which they had not even entered, for the purpose of purchasing fodder for their cattle, and one of them to that degree of severity as to endanger the man's life, who still continues ill; for which reason, together with numerous other acts of rebellion and outrageous conduct on their part, and in support of the authority of the Aumil, it was found necessary to proceed against them to inflict the punishment they so justly merited.

I am happy now to communicate the favourable result of this affair, which will appear from a perusal of the copy of Lieutenant Robinson's despatch on this occasion, which terminated in the evacuation of this strong hold. I have given instructions for the demolition and rasure of the defences of the place.

Perhaps it may be satisfactory to acquaint you that I daily expect the arrival of Captain Duncan to assume the command of the troops at this station.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
7th March 1815.

(Signed) J. GERARD,
Lieutenant, commanding at Sultanpore.

Letter from
Lieut. Robinson.

To Lieutenant Gerard, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

My former correspondence will have acquainted you with the wanton and unprovoked outrage committed by the inhabitants of the fortified village of Gopaulpore on the persons of some of the public servants, whilst employed in the execution of their duty. Having consulted with the Aumil, Hafiz Alee Khan, on the steps proper to be taken, he gave it as his opinion, that from this circumstance, as well as in conformity to the instructions he had received from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to allow of no strong-holds in the district, it would be advisable to destroy the place, more particularly as these people had on other recent occasions evinced a disposition to resist legal authority. It was, however, our wish to accomplish this object without coming to extremities; for which purpose a messenger was sent by the Aumil to the head-man, requiring his attendance, that he might have an opportunity of justifying the conduct of his people, were it capable of any palliation, and to acquaint him of the determination that had been made respecting his place. So far from having:

having listened to this message, the bearer on approaching to deliver it had a spear thrown at him. This conduct alone called for immediate punishment, and afforded a convincing proof of their hostile intentions. However, still willing to allow the man every opportunity of exculpating himself, by a disavowal of his participation in the violent proceedings complained of, and that they had occurred without his knowledge, also indulging an expectation that a message from me might meet with a better reception, I despatched a trusty non-commissioned officer, accompanied by another man from the Aumil. This expectation was however frustrated, by their returning with an account of having been refused an opportunity of delivering their message, and cautioned to avoid coming near the place, as the people declined any communication with either the Aumil or myself. I feel persuaded you will concur with me, that I now had no alternative left but that of attacking the place: for which purpose I moved down the detachment on the morning of the 2d instant, and endeavoured to force the gate-way; but finding after a few rounds from the guns that the object was impracticable, I withdrew the troops, and having after a very careful inspection fixed upon a point on the west side, which appeared to be least difficult of access, proceeded to construct a battery opposite to it; but before a practicable breach could be effected the people had entered into negotiations with the Aumil for the surrender of the place, on condition of being permitted to retire unmolested. With the concurring opinion of the Aumil I was induced to grant their request, from a conviction that an attempt to storm would, even if successful, be attended with most severe loss, whilst the enemy would on our gaining the breach have been able to effect their escape with perfect impunity, from the insufficiency of our numbers to surround the place so as to cut off their retreat. They were therefore allowed to quit the place by the opposite side, which they did about eleven o'clock this morning, to the number of nearly two hundred men, and it was immediately taken possession of. An examination of the defences of the place afforded me reason to congratulate myself on having obtained possession in this manner. These defences consisted in a triple row of bamboos, each closely interwoven, with a broad and deep ditch between each row, whilst every inch of ground within the enclosure was of a nature to be disputed with that advantage to the inhabitants which a knowledge of its strength conferred. It is with much concern I have to report, that in the execution of this service one sepoy was killed and the Jemadar of artillery severely wounded. I have not been able to ascertain the loss sustained by our opponents: report says they had five killed.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to bear testimony to the good conduct of the whole detachment on this occasion.

Agreeably to your instructions I propose moving to-morrow morning towards Puttee, for the purpose of co-operating with Mr. Lowther.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Gopaulpore,
6th March 1815.

(Signed) J. ROBINSON,
Lieutenant, commanding Detachment.

To J. Baillie, Esq, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

I request you will communicate, as speedily as possible, the contents of the accompanying letter, which I have just received from Mr. Lowther, my assistant on deputation at Unglee, to his Excellency the Vizier, and that you will prevail upon him to allow one of the companies at present with Lieutenant Robinson to co-operate with Mr. Lowther for the purpose mentioned in that address.

I have, &c.

Zillah, Jounpore,
6th March 1815.

(Signed) R. O WYNN,
Magistrate.

Letter
from Magistrate of
Jounpore.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Mar. 1815.

Letter from
Lieut. Robinson.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Assistant-
Magistrate of
Jounpore.

To R. O. Wynne, Esq., Magistrate, Zillah Jounpore.

Sir :

1. In continuation of my reply to your letter of the 2d instant, I beg leave to state that I perfectly coincide with you in the opinion, that the military detachment now here under the command of Lieutenant Burton should be returned to its duties at Jounpore as soon as circumstances will possibly admit of it, taking into consideration the responsibility and heavy charge of the jail-guards, as now performed by common Burkundauzes.

2. As it would appear that no additional military force can at present be spared from Benares, I think it would be highly advantageous to the service I am employed in, if you could have orders given for the troops now in the neighbourhood to co-operate with me (a detachment of two companies of the Second Regiment Native Infantry with guns, under the command of Lieutenant Robinson, are at Aldemow, a purgunnah in his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier's dominions, distant only eight coss), since I am inclined to think that his Excellency would have no hesitation in allowing one of the companies to be stationed at Puttee, as from the instructions I have had the honour to receive from you, I am directed to co-operate with his officers in assisting in the apprehension of his delinquent Zemindars who have taken refuge in this district; and the Vakeel from Hafiz Alea Khan, the Nawaub Vizier's Aumil at purgunnah Aldemow, having yesterday presented a list of the defaulting Zemindars, it is my intention to give the requisite orders and assistance for their apprehension as soon as I have arranged matters more immediately connected with my deputation.

I may add to the above, that the very rebels I am now endeavouring to get hold of act in concert with his Excellency's Zemindars, and have continually given protection to his refractory subjects, as I have already stated to you in a former letter, and it is very evident that securing these chiefs and their adherents will likewise greatly contribute to the peace and tranquillity of his Excellency's frontier territory.

4. In conclusion, I beg leave to suggest that you will make an application to the Resident at Lucknow to request that orders may be given that one of the companies at Aldemow be ordered to Puttee; and in the event of this meeting the approbation of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, the company now here under the command of Lieutenant Burton may be withdrawn and return to take the duties at Jounpore.

I have, &c.

Camp, Puttee,
4th March 1815.

(Signed) W. LOWTHER,
Assistant Magistrate on Deputation.

P. S. If Lieutenant Robinson were directed to co-operate generally with me, upon any application I might find it necessary to make, the measure might be attended with advantage.

True copy :

(Signed) R. O. WYNNE,
Magistrate.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 28th June 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 June 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed duplicate of a letter which I addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department on the 29th May last.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
10th June 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.
Sir:

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. I deem it to be my duty to lay before you, for the notice and consideration of the Governor-General, some circumstances which have been brought to my knowledge, and some conjectures which have arisen in my mind respecting the purposes of his Excellency the Vizier, connected with the deputation of his Ministers to wait on his Lordship at Futtygurh, independent of those objects which are specified in his Excellency's paper of requests.

2. I have observed with concern and anxiety, during a period of two or three months, the gradual diminution of the influence of the Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and also of that of the Dewan, over the mind of his Excellency the Vizier. I have ascribed this unfortunate decline to two or three principal causes, in addition to that natural jealousy which is ever known to subsist among the courtiers of an Indian prince, and which induces the servants out of power to seek the destruction of favourites by every artifice and device.

3. Shortly after the appointment of the Ministers, they were naturally enough, though most insidiously, represented to his Excellency the Vizier by some designing persons around him as the servants of the British Government rather than his own, as having been appointed, in fact, by the Governor-General, receiving their khillats from his hand, and as pledged by that appointment to accomplish all such objects as our Government might propose to them for the furtherance of its own interests, without regard to the advantage of their master. The early effect of this insinuation on the mind of his Excellency the Vizier was probably to occasion a distrust of his Excellency's Ministers, and disincline him to receive their suggestions, from an idea that they were dictated by our Government; while, on the other hand, this idea may have induced him, from apprehension rather than on conviction, to acquiesce in their suggestions for a time; and thus the temporary success of their administration may be accounted for in a satisfactory manner, without weakening the grounds of the supposition that the Vizier was indisposed to their measures very recently after their appointment.

4. My negotiation with his Excellency the Vizier for a second loan of money to the Company, which Moatumud-ood-Dowlah assisted most zealously, formed an argument to his enemies in support of the base insinuation above noticed, which they used with considerable effect, by representing the loan as a robbery committed on his Excellency's treasury by the Minister at my instigation.

5. The reform of the Vizier's administration, which his Excellency originally acquiesced in with apparent cordiality and readiness, and of which the Ministers are the principal instruments, has of late been exhibited to his Excellency as a mean of circumscribing his power, and increasing the expenses of his government without any advantage to himself.

6. That odious engine of oppression in the hands of an Indian sovereign, the department of *Akhbar*, or Intelligence, more properly a system of espionage, which pervaded every district of this country as well as its Capital and

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 June 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Court during the life-time of the late Vizier, and formed a ground for the daily imprisonment of some subject or servant of his Government, with a view to confiscation or forfeiture, had been utterly abolished in the Capital on the accession of the present Vizier, and its universal abolition or supersession by the arrangements of police in the interior, which formed a principal branch of the reform, had been frequently suggested to his Excellency and pressed on the consideration of his Ministers, as indispensable, in my judgment, not only to the happiness of the people, but to the peace of the sovereign's mind. The expense of it alone is nearly equal to that of an efficient police; and the channels of corruption and oppression which it opens, by encouraging false accusations and creating suspicion and distrust, are destructive of every virtue in the people, as well as of the security of their persons and property, and of the peace and happiness of their ruler.

7. The Vizier has been led to believe by some designing persons around him who are jealous of the Minister's influence, that the object of the abolition of this department is to increase the Minister's power, by circumscribing his Excellency's means of obtaining intelligence of his proceedings, and of the conduct of the Nazims and Tehsildars, as well as the subordinate officers of his Excellency's household and Court, and the revival of a department of intelligence, or rather a system of espionage, conducted by the Minister's enemies under the especial patronage of his Excellency, bids fair for the total subversion of the Minister's influence and authority over every branch of the administration, which his absence on the deputation to Futtygurh will probably tend to accelerate.

8. His Excellency has, I fear, been encouraged to those measures of opposition to the Minister, by insinuations, on the part of his enemies, that he is no longer regarded by the Governor-General with that degree of favour and confidence which his Lordship originally reposed in him, and that his Lordship's refusal of those observances of respect and consideration for the Minister which were shown to his predecessors in office is to be ascribed, in a principal degree, to a change in his Lordship's sentiments with regard to Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, which his enemies pretend to have been occasioned by complaints that have reached the Governor-General since his Lordship's arrival at Futtygurh.

9. Of the falsehood of all those complaints the Vizier must be perfectly satisfied, and in all probability knows that the actual instigators of the complaints are the persons who have long been endeavouring to poison his mind against the Minister. Yet the fickleness of his Excellency's disposition and the weakness of his understanding, I fear, are such as daily to subject him to the influence of the most flimsy artifices and designs, by persons as unworthy of his confidence, or even of admission to his presence, as their purposes are hostile to his happiness and to the interests of his Government and ours.

10. The consequence of the practices of those persons is already apparent, to the extent of his Excellency's total disregard of some useful suggestions by the Minister on several points of reform, more particularly the department of *Akhbar*, and his Excellency's recent employment of some persons to subordinate offices, who are known to be inimical to the Minister, in the room of others displaced, who were originally appointed at his suggestion.

11. The departure of the deputation to Futtygurh is reported to be the signal for the dismissal of every officer that remains who has a share of the Minister's confidence, and the appointment of his enemies in their room, for the purpose, as is stated, of impeding, as well as of bringing into discredit, the whole of the measures of reform, which may in consequence hereafter be branded as inefficient and productive of loss of revenue to the Vizier, by reason of the mismanagement of his officers, during the absence of the Minister and Dewan. This measure, it is said, will be followed, if it have not been already preceded, by the secret deputation of an agent on the part of his Excellency the Vizier to convey his complaints against the Ministers, and perhaps against me for supporting them, to the ear of the Governor-General, who is falsely reported and believed, on the ground of some former occurrences, to be unfa-

unfavourably disposed towards me. The support which I have thought myself at liberty to afford to the Minister and Dewan has never extended beyond advice on such public affairs of the administration as they themselves have submitted for my consideration, or answers to such questions from the Vizier as his Excellency has put to me respecting them.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
28 June 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

12. Having thus, as concisely as possible, described to you, for his Lordship's information, the view which I take with reluctance, though I consider it as unquestionably a just one, of the state of intrigues at this Court, it is needless and might be considered presumptuous, to offer any suggestions to his Lordship on the propriety of checking those intrigues, or the most effectual method of doing so. I foresee, on the one hand, from their success, the total subversion of the reform with the disgrace and dismissal of the Ministers, and the destruction of the British influence in Oude during the remainder of the reign of this Nawaub; and I augur, on the other hand, from their failure, by the countenance and favour to be publicly shewn to the Ministers during their attendance on the Governor-General, and by such other more effectual measures as his Lordship's wisdom may suggest, the successful conduct of the reform, and of the general administration of this Government under the influence of the British counsels, which should always, I think, be maintained, as conducive not only to the advantage of the British interests in this country, but also, in an eminent degree, to the happiness of the people of Oude and to the true interests of their Sovereign.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th May 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 4th July 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 July 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.
Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the enclosed duplicate of a despatch which I have this day addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
21st June, 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. I have this day received from the Vizier, and transmitted to the Persian Secretary, a letter addressed by his Excellency to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, requesting his Lordship's sanction of the abolition of that part of the new system of assessment and collection of the revenue in his Excellency's dominions, which provides for a commission to the Tehsildars in lieu of the charges of collection.

2. His Excellency did me the honour to transmit to me a draft of his letter to the Governor-General in a letter to my own address, a translation of which, and a copy of my answer to it, are enclosed. The letter to the Governor-General, however, was received for transmission to his Lordship before I had time to prepare a communication of my sentiments regarding it; and I ascribe this sudden resolution of the Vizier to an apprehension excited in his mind by some designing persons around him, of my remonstrating against the tenor of his letter, and the tendency of the proposition which it conveys to frustrate the reform of his Government.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. My

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 July 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. My despatch of the 29th ultimo will have prepared the mind of the Governor-General for the change in the counsels of the Vizier which has led to his present proposition. The successful conduct of the reform is, in my mind, utterly impracticable, under the influence of the pernicious counsels by which the Vizier is guided at present; but as any attempt upon my part to counteract the influence of those counsels, during the absence of his Excellency's Ministers would not only be futile and vain, but would also appear to be incompatible with the rules of conduct prescribed to me in your despatch of the 12th November last, I have deemed it to be my duty to refrain from offering any advice to his Excellency on the subject of his letter to the Governor-General, or the tendency of the proposal which it conveys.

4. My opinion on the question at issue is favourable to the continuance of the commission of ten per centum on the revenue, in lieu of the charges of collection for a period of two or three years, till the revenue shall be permanently settled and security for the payment of it obtained from the landholders or possessors of estates, so as to supersede the security of the Tehsildars, which is one of the principal objects of granting them a commission on the revenue. Another advantage, however, is that of insuring their zeal and fidelity in the proper assessment of their districts, with a view to their own interest, which is involved in the benefit of the State, arising from the increase of its revenue on the one hand, and on the other in a due consideration of the rights of the several landholders, since an over-assessment of the lands would preclude the realization of the revenue, and subject the Tehsildars, or their sureties, to make good the amount of the defalcations arising from the inability of the landholders to fulfil their engagements with the State.

5. The measure proposed by the Vizier to be substituted for the appointment of Tehsildars enjoying a commission on the revenue, is that recently adopted in our territory, of employing revenue officers, with a salary and establishment of subordinates in the immediate pay of the Government. This measure may probably answer in the course of a few years in his Excellency's territory as in ours, when the security of the revenue shall be otherwise provided for in the manner above explained; but at present I foresee the result of the arrangement proposed by his Excellency to be that of an extraordinary defalcation in the early instalments of the revenue for the ensuing Fussy year, and a recurrence to the system of farming, as in the time of the late Vizier.

6. A modification of the present system of Tehsildaree, might be suggested for the satisfaction of the Vizier, with a view to diminish the loss which his Excellency has been induced to complain of, without duly appreciating the benefits which the system in reality affords, and by which the loss is counter-balanced. His Excellency has been subjected to some loss this year by the continued maintenance and increase of a large Sebundee force in the several districts of his dominions, which the removal of our troops from the interior, in consequence of the war against Nepaul, has hitherto rendered indispensable, and which might otherwise have been greatly reduced, or the expense of it transferred to the Tehsildars. A considerable reduction of the number of this description of force may be effected without any delay, in the case of his Excellency's being furnished with the usual quota of our troops for the support of the authority of his officers; and a number of districts in his dominions, those contiguous, for example, to the capital, and to all the stations of Zillahdars, might be rendered *hoozoor tuhseel*, and the duties of assessment and collection performed by the Zillahdars and their deputies, without any commission on the revenue, or other additional expense to the present establishment of the Zillahs; thus saving, in all probability, one-fourth, at the least, of the commission, which his Excellency has estimated in his letter at ten or twelve lacs of rupees.

7. The expense of the department of *Akhbar* too, most unprofitable and injurious as it is (destructive, indeed, I may say, of the good government of the country and of the comfort and happiness of the people) might with great propriety be saved; and, on the whole, I do not hesitate to affirm, that the experience of another year of the new system of administration to be exercised by the present Ministers, under the influence of my suggestion and advice, uncontrolled

controlled by the pernicious designs of the Vizier's present advisers, would serve to satisfy his Excellency's mind of the eminent advantages arising from the system which our Government recommended to him, and which he is now labouring to counteract.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
4 July 1815.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
21st June 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 20th of June 1815.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

At this time I have prepared a draft of a letter which I propose to address to my respected uncle, the Governor-General, on the subject of the abolition of the commission of ten per centum on the revenue as the charge of collection, and I transmit the draft for your perusal. Do you, from motives of friendship, represent this matter to his Lordship, in such a manner as you think proper, with a view to the accomplishment of my object; and if you consider your own representation to be sufficient for the purpose, it is unnecessary for me to write on the subject, because your writing will suffice: but if you deem it advisable, I shall prepare a letter in the terms of the draft, and send it to you for transmission to his Lordship.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Dated the 21st of June 1815.)

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter dated the 11th of Rujeeb, 1230 Hijjuree (20th June) conveying a draft of a letter which your Excellency proposes to address to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and desiring a communication of my sentiments on the practicability of the accomplishment of your Excellency's wish to abolish the commission of ten per centum on the revenue of your dominions as the charge of collection, from the commencement of the ensuing Fusly year.

Your Excellency needs not to be assured of my cordial desire to promote the advantage of your Government and the accomplishment of your personal views. I am ready to represent to the Governor-General whatever your Excellency may desire, and to solicit his Lordship's acquiescence in any proposal that you may make to him. But as the abolition of the commission on the revenue, though it may appear simple and easy to your Excellency, is in my mind a question of great importance and requiring the maturest deliberation, it seems to me to be proper that you should write to his Lordship on the subject; and as the tenor of the draft which you have sent to me appears to be perfectly unexceptionable, I shall transmit it to his Lordship without delay, and with an earnest recommendation of the subject of it to his Lordship's most serious consideration.

With regard, however, to the loss of so very large a sum as ten or twelve lacs of rupees of the revenue of your Excellency's dominions during the present year, in consequence of the newly established commission of ten per centum to the Tehsildars in lieu of the charges of collection, it occurs to me to suggest to your Excellency that the accurate mode of ascertaining the true extent of the loss which has arisen from this arrangement is a comparison of the actual receipts of revenue into your Excellency's treasury for the current year, after deducting the commission of ten per centum, with the actual receipts of last year, when the system of collection was different. If the difference arising from that comparison shall appear to be the sum which your Excellency has stated, or shall approach to that amount, there can be no doubt of your Excellency's having sustained the loss which you describe; but if the actual receipts of the present year, after deducting the commission of ten per centum, shall be found equal to the receipts of last year, or shall fall short of them only in a degree which may be satisfactorily accounted for by the employment of a large proportion of the quota of British troops usually stationed

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Consultations,
4 July 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

stationed in your Excellency's dominions in the war against Nepaul, or by the late introduction of the new system of assessment and collection of the revenue into your Excellency's territory, neither of which causes can be expected to operate in future, in this case I humbly conceive that your Excellency's calculation of the loss arising from the new system will not only be found to be erroneous, but that the advantages to arise from it in future will be impressed on your Excellency's mind, so as to supersede all remarks upon my part. Nevertheless, as the gratification of your Excellency's mind is the chief object of my desire, I merely await the receipt of your Excellency's letter to his Lordship's address, to forward it, with my recommendation of its contents, to his early and favourable consideration.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 18th July 1815.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter addressed this day, by command of his Excellency the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to his despatch of the 21st instant, together with copies of the letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, dated the 23d instant, and of his Lordship's reply of this date.

I have, &c.

Futtygurh,
26th June 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 23d of June 1815.)

As your Lordship is graciously pleased to take a cordial interest in all my affairs, I deem it to be my duty to apprise you of whatever is productive of benefit or loss to me. I accordingly proceed to inform your Lordship, that by the introduction of the system of reform the sum of ten or twelve lacs of rupees has this year been deducted from the amount of the collections, on account of the commission of ten per cent. payable to the Tehsildars : other charges have also been incurred on account of the employment of an extra number of troops in the districts. The deduction on account of the ten per cent. commission must be considered to be a dead loss. Your Lordship never did, nor ever can approve of any arrangement which is productive of loss to me ; and moreover, the commission of ten per cent. on the collections has been abolished in the Honourable Company's dominions. It appears to me expedient, therefore, that this commission should be abolished from the Fusly year 1223, by which means I should no longer have to sustain the loss in question. In lieu of the commission, I propose to grant a fixed allowance to the officers employed in making the collections, as is done in the Honourable Company's dominions. Your Lordship will no doubt approve of this plan. Be pleased, therefore, to signify your approbation, that I may proceed to issue the necessary orders to my officers, and thereby effect an annual saving of ten or twelve lacs of rupees. I shall expect your Lordship's favourable answer.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

To

To his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 26th June 1815.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter. (Recapitulate that received 23d instant.)

Your Excellency's recurrence to my advice and opinion, in this case, is a source of satisfaction to me, as demonstrating the just sense entertained by your Excellency, of the principles on which the reform should be prosecuted, namely, with the perfect concurrence and unanimity of the two States, whose interest in its success is equal.

Your Excellency does me justice in believing that I never did, nor ever can, approve of any arrangement productive of loss to you; and in the genuine spirit of that sentiment, I proceed to convey to your Excellency my opinion on the point on which you have desired it.

Your Excellency's proposition for abolishing the commission of ten per cent. on the revenues now received by the Tehsildars, and for assigning fixed salaries to those officers, being professedly founded on the establishment of that system in the Honourable Company's provinces, it is proper to inform your Excellency that the system in question was not introduced into these provinces until they had been some years in the possession of the British Government, and considerable progress had been made in ascertaining their resources, and fixing the principles on which the settlement of the revenue should be made.

Until those objects were accomplished, the Tehsildars received, as under your Excellency's Government, a commission of ten per cent. on the revenues, in lieu of charges and establishments of all descriptions. This mode of payment was recommended by its superior advantages in stimulating the exertions of the Tehsildars to increase the public revenues, by which their just profits would be proportionably augmented; in restraining them from exacting more than was justly due from the landholders, by which their profits would be diminished and themselves responsible for the failure in the punctual realization of the revenues consequent to such exactions; and in enabling the Government, by their means, to arrive at a knowledge of the real value of the lands, which must obviously be the foundation of a just and advantageous settlement. This mode of payment was also found to be in other respects convenient, in the introduction of a new settlement, before the actual extent and cost of the necessary establishments could be practically ascertained.

Our experience of the advantages of this system occasioned the recommendation by the British Government of its adoption by your Excellency; and the same experience justifies the belief, that when the objects of its adoption shall be accomplished, a recurrence to the plan now proposed by your Excellency will be found not only unobjectionable, but expedient. For the reasons stated, I cannot hesitate in recommending to your Excellency to persevere in the present plan, until the time shall arrive when the proposed arrangement can be expediently substituted for it.

It is probable that the experience of even one year after the present system shall have been fairly put in operation, would satisfy your Excellency that no defalcation did actually arise from the source to which it is now imputed. By perseverance in this and the other arrangements, recommended to your Excellency by the British Government, by reposing a just confidence in your Ministers and revenue officers, and discountenancing and disregarding the insidious and unfounded insinuations and charges to which their exertions in your service must unavoidably expose them, and by a cordial and frank recurrence to the advice of the British Government and its representative at your Court, on all occasions of doubt or difficulty, I entertain a full persuasion of the success of the reform, and the consequent augmentation and security of your Excellency's revenues, and the prosperity of your administration in all its branches.

For further communications on the subject of this letter I refer your Excellency to Major Baillie.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815,

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st instant: a translation of the letter from his Excellency the Vizier to the Governor-General, transmitted in your letter of the same date to the Persian Secretary, has also been laid before his Lordship.

2. The Governor-General has deemed it proper to address a letter to the Vizier in reply, in the terms of the enclosed English draft. His Lordship's letter will be transmitted to you by Mr. Swinton, and you will be pleased to deliver it to the Vizier at such period as you may judge most expedient with reference to its object.

3. It is scarcely necessary to add any thing in the form of direct instructions to yourself, as the course of representation and argument to be employed in conference with the Vizier on the subject is sufficiently indicated by the tenor of the Governor-General's letter.

4. His Lordship has not judged it expedient to offer to the Vizier any direct advice for the abolition of the system of *Akhbar*, described in your despatch, since his Lordship apprehends that even if his Excellency were, in compliance with the declared opinions of the Governor-General, to abolish it in form, there is no means of effectually extinguishing it, while, as is to be feared, a secret disposition to encourage a practice so congenial to the habits and principles of Native Princes, and to the personal character of the Vizier, remains in his Excellency's breast.

5. The reference to this subject in the Governor-General's letter is, however, sufficiently plain to afford you an opportunity of setting before his Excellency the evils of such a system, and its incompatibility with any wise and salutary principles of Government. Such a representation his Lordship desires you will make. If his Excellency, contrary to expectation, shall appear to be sensible of the justice of it, you will consider yourself at liberty to encourage the disposition, and to prevail on him to abolish it altogether.

I have, &c.

Futtygurh,
26th June 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 Aug. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d August 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting for your information the enclosed duplicate of a letter which I have this day addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
18th July 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir:

1. His Excellency the Vizier's counsels appear to have fluctuated almost daily since the despatch of my letter to your address under date the 8th instant. On the 9th the Ministers were admitted into the Presence, and the verbal explanations of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, combined with his formal acquiescence in

in the rules which were prescribed to him by the Vizier, seemed not only to have obviated all the doubts that had arisen in his Excellency's mind regarding the past, but to afford a promise of renewed and increasing confidence in both his Ministers for the future.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. Moatumud-ood-Dowlah called on me on Monday the 10th instant, and I took that opportunity of explaining to him the purport of Lord Moira's letter to the Vizier dated the 26th ultimo, regarding the continuance of the commission on the revenue in lieu of the charges of collection. The Minister advised the delivery of this letter without delay, and promised to prepare his Excellency's mind for receiving it on the following morning.

3. I presented the letter to his Excellency on Tuesday the 11th instant, at a conference holden at the Residency. I explained to him at considerable length the grounds of Lord Moira's advice regarding the continuance of the commission to Tehsildars. I endeavoured to satisfy his Excellency's mind that no loss, but on the contrary an advantage, would arise to him from a persistence in the arrangement in question, and in all the other measures of reform, in the case of their being conducted with my concurrence; and I hinted, in friendly and delicate terms, at the interruption of the efficient progress of those measures during the absence of his Excellency's Ministers, and the causes of that interruption, particularly the revival of the *Akhbar*, which had suspended the realization of the revenues by weakening the authority of the Nazims, and been attended with other pernicious effects. But I added my sanguine expectation of the removal of all those obstacles to the successful progress of the reform, in consequence of the return of the Ministers, who would now resume the duties of their stations as usual, and in occasional consultation with me.

4. His Excellency acknowledged his conviction that the Governor-General had advised him for the best, agreed to continue the commission for some time longer, observed that there was no necessity for a written reply to his Lordship's letter, and stated, as a reason for not replying to it, his desire that some portions of the contents of it should be concealed from the knowledge of his Ministers. "They will both attend you," said his Excellency, "as heretofore. Do you tell Rajah Dya-Krishen to prepare and submit the accounts of the revenue without any delay, and give him and Moatumud-ood-Dowlah such further advice as you think proper *verbally*; but there is no occasion to shew them this letter, nor to give them any instructions in writing." I replied, that I should continue as formerly to give my advice to the Ministers on such points as they might refer for my consideration, and I should leave it to his Excellency to communicate to them such parts of the Governor-General's letter as his Excellency might think necessary for their guidance.

5. From the 11th till the 14th instant I had no communication with the Ministers. On the 12th I was sorry to learn that they were again in some degree of disgrace, and that his Excellency had forbidden all his courtiers, as well as the subordinate officers of his Government and household, and even the Cutwal of the city and Sirdars and Risalahdars of his troops, from waiting on Moatumud-ood-Dowlah or paying any respect to him whatever. This report I should not have believed, if some written orders to the Nazims, under the seal of his Excellency the Vizier, forbidding their obedience to the Ministers, had not previously been brought to my notice; and if two respectable natives, dependants of the British Government, namely, Tujummool Hoosein Khan and Ekram Oolla Khan, had not addressed me on the subject directly to report the orders they had received, prohibiting their attendance on Moatumud-ood-Dowlah as a source of public disorder. Under the influence of these circumstances combined, I could no longer hesitate to consider the functions of the Ministers as at an end; and I was accordingly about to prepare a report on the subject to you for the Governor-General's information, when towards the evening of the 13th instant, I understood that the Ministers, and especially Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, were again in favour with the Vizier, and employed by his Excellency to detect the supposed malversations in office of some persons

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persons who were considered as their enemies, and the principal causes of their disgrace.

6. On the morning of the 14th instant the Ministers waited on me by desire of his Excellency the Vizier, and I had a long conversation with them on the subject of the progress of the reform, the realization of the balances of revenue for the current Fusly year, and the probability of advantage or loss from the continuance of the commission to Tehsildars in lieu of the charges of collection.

7. The Ministers declared to me, what I knew before to be the case, that the reform had proceeded most successfully till the time of their departure to Futtygurh, that an advantageous settlement of the revenue had been concluded in most of the districts, that security had been obtained from the Tehsildars for the largest instalment of the revenue, and that a great deal more had been realized at the end of the month of Bysaack than had ever been known in the country at that period of the year, when an unhappy change in the counsels of their Sovereign had served to disconcert all their proceedings, to weaken their authority over every subordinate officer in every department of the State, to suspend the realization of the revenue, and ultimately to produce a state of things which it was unnecessary for them to explain to me, since I must be aware of the cessation of their functions and of their total want of authority to control any branch of the administration. Rajah Dya-Krishen added, however, that notwithstanding all those impediments to the successful progress of the reform, the actual receipts into the treasury for the current Fusly year would still be found to be equal to those of the preceding year, and that the receipts of this year would have been greater, if the abolition of the system of *Akhbar* had allowed to the Nazims and Tehsildars the efficient exercise of that authority committed to them by the regulations of our Government, as originally introduced into Oude; but that, for a period of nearly two months, the authority of those officers had been weakened, and their personal apprehensions excited, by the corrupt practices of the news-writers, so as to suspend the collections entirely, and to leave large balances of revenue in the hands of a number of the landholders, which the Tehsildars were afraid to demand, and for which they and their sureties must be responsible or the loss be incurred by the State.

8. I stated in general terms to the Ministers the purport of the Governor-General's letter, in answer to his Excellency the Vizier's, on the subject of the commission on the revenue. I mentioned his Lordship's opinion, in perfect coincidence with my own, on the tendency of the system of *Akhbar*, and its inconsistency with the success of the reform or with any salutary principle of Government. I expressed a confident hope that the friendly suggestions on this subject, which were contained in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, the explanations which I had offered to his Excellency and the occasional representations of the Ministers at proper seasons to their Sovereign, would impress his Excellency with a conviction of the necessity of abolishing a system so manifestly injurious to the good government of his country, the due realization of his revenue, the peace of his own mind, and the general happiness of his subjects. That, in the meantime, I had reason to believe that his Excellency had departed, on conviction, from the wish which he entertained and expressed of suspending the commission on the revenue. That this conviction in his mind would be necessarily confirmed by an inspection and comparison of the revenue accounts of the last and current years, which the Dewan should prepare and submit to him with the least practicable delay; and that, after the adjustment of those accounts, it seemed expedient to suggest to his Excellency, as a prelude to the abolition of the *Akhbar*, to review the conduct and proceedings of all his Nazims and Tehsildars, to determine who were worthy of his confidence, to continue in office those alone who had merited his entire approbation and to strengthen their authority for the future, to remove every officer who had displeased him, and thus to put an end to all suspicion, and to supersede the necessity for those checks which his Excellency had recently thought proper to establish over his Nazims and Tehsildars.

9. The

9. The Ministers concurred in the propriety of all the suggestions which I offered; and as Moatumud-ood-Dowlah was to wait upon his Excellency in the evening, it was agreed that he should submit the purport of our conversation to his Excellency, with the view of preparing his mind for a renewal of it with me in the morning, when I was to breakfast with his Excellency as usual.

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2 Aug. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow

10. Before proceeding to the palace, on Saturday the 15th instant, I received a message from Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to this effect: that he had repeated to his Excellency the Vizier the purport of my discourse to the Ministers on the subject of the arrangements to be adopted for the ensuing Fusly year, and particularly on the abolition of the *Akhbar*. That his Excellency seemed determined to maintain this department at all hazards, and was apparently so much displeased at the suggestion of its abolition, and the arguments which I furnished against it, and which the Minister repeated to his Excellency, as to express himself with irritation in these words: "If such be the result of your conferences with the Resident, the seldomer you go to him the better. You wish to deprive me of the only means of information that I possess regarding the proceedings of my officers and subjects. There was the other day an affray in one of the districts, as also a robbery and murder, and but for the news-writer I should have known nothing of the matter. The *Akhbar* is an ancient and useful department, and it is my pleasure to maintain it as formerly."

11. With a knowledge of this determination in the mind of his Excellency the Vizier, it would obviously have been useless for me, as well as inconsistent with the spirit of my instructions, conveyed by your despatch of the 26th ultimo, to renew my instances with his Excellency for the abolition of the system of *Akhbar*, and I resolved to restrict my endeavours to the mitigation of its pernicious effects, by persuading his Excellency of the necessity of supporting the authority of the Tehsildars during the critical season of collection, and suspending the operation of his orders on such papers of intelligence as were brought before him, till the balances of revenue should be realized, and an investigation of the various circumstances to be reported by the news-writers could take place.

12. At our conference of the 15th instant, accordingly, after presenting to his Excellency an acknowledgment for the sum of twenty-three lacs of rupees, the payment of which into the treasury had been completed on the 8th instant, I related briefly to his Excellency the leading points of the conversation which had passed between his Ministers and me. I stated Rajah Dya-Krishen's acknowledgment of there being large balances of revenue due by the landholders in several districts, and his explanation of the causes of those balances: that the Nazims and Tehsildars were afraid to enforce their demands, however just, against the landholders, by reason of the corrupt practices of the news-writers, who were bribed by the defaulting Zemindars to represent the demands against them as oppressive, and whose false or exaggerated reports were acted on without the smallest investigation, so as to weaken the hands of the Nazims and subordinate collectors of revenue, and bring their authority over the landholders into contempt. I added, as a matter of general report and notoriety, that all the arrangements of police were rendered nugatory by similar practices, and that a robber or murderer, as well as a defaulting Zemindar, who had cause to apprehend the seizure of his person or distraint of his goods by the Nazim or Tehsildar, had only to give a few rupees to the news-writer, to enable him to set the local authority of the Government at defiance, and to evade the punishment of his crime or the payment of his debt to the State; and therefore if his Excellency were determined to maintain the establishment of news-writers in the manner in which it was recently formed, that it seemed to me to be expedient and indispensable to the realization of the balances of revenue, to caution the news-writers most peremptorily against transmitting inaccurate reports, to prohibit their interference between the Nazims or Tehsildars and the landholders on any question of revenue till the season of collection should be passed, and generally to manifest, at the least, an equal share of confidence in the Nazims or Tehsildars and the news-writers, by suspending a decision on points which the latter might report to the Presence till

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till some investigation should take place. His Excellency seemed to feel the propriety of those suggestions in as far as he understood them, and promised to consider them again and to talk the matter over with his Ministers.

13. After I had taken leave of the Vizier, his Excellency called my Moonshee into his presence, and discussed with him and the Ministers the purport of the suggestions which I had offered. A number of papers of intelligence from the several districts of the country were submitted while my Moonshee was in waiting, and the Vizier, to manifest his compliance with my advice, as I suppose, referred those papers to the Nazims for their own investigation and decision, thus precluding or suspending for a day those injurious effects of the *Akhbar* which his former daily practice had occasioned.

14. Towards the evening of the 15th inst., I understood that Moatumud-ood-Dowlah had submitted to the Vizier the result of his inquiries into the conduct of some subordinate officers of the Government during the Ministers' absence at Futtugurh, and that Moozuffur Alee Khan, Darogah of the Tope Khana (master of the ordnance), and Meer Gholam Alee Khan, controller of the Duwab (an office recently conferred on this person), were implicated in charges of speculation to a very considerable amount, which the Minister engaged to substantiate. The Vizier proceeded rather summarily, in the first instance, on the charges which the Minister had adduced, by demanding from the persons accused, particularly from Moozuffer Alee Khan, the restitution of the amount of the sums which this officer was alleged to have appropriated. With regard to Gholam Alee Khan, his Excellency contented himself with superseding the arrangements which this officer had made in the department committed to his charge, and dismissing those subordinate officers whom he had added to the former establishment.

15. On the morning of the 16th instant, the accused and their accuser, the Minister, were confronted in the presence of the Vizier, and a disgraceful altercation took place between Moozuffer Alee Khan and the Minister; the former, supported, as I understand, by the Vizier, who was induced by the intrigues of the alleged delinquent and his associates, to justify his peculations to the Minister, whom he had previously employed to detect them, and the consequence of this dispute was reported to be the triumph of the opposition over the Minister and the temporary disgrace of the latter, who retired from the Court with a resolution to resign his station immediately, unless justice should be done in the matter of his charge against Moozuffer Alee Khan.

16. Next morning I had a message from Rajah Dya-Krishen, expressive of his natural apprehension of sharing in the disgrace of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and his desire to anticipate this disgrace by a voluntary retirement from office. He described the fickleness of the Vizier's disposition, and his ready and implicit belief of the scandalous reports of his news-writers, and of intriguing persons around him, to be such as to destroy the confidence and subvert the authority of the Ministers, and to preclude the beneficial exercise of any one of their official functions. His Excellency was daily in the habit of passing orders on the statements of his news-writers, contradictory and subversive of those orders which were passed but the day before, on the Rajah's representations, by his advice, and when the inconsistency was pointed out to his Excellency he never scrupled to disavow the preceding orders, by declaring his ignorance of the subject, and imputing those orders to the Rajah himself or to Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, who had acted, he said, without authority. A number of instances of this unsteadiness in the Vizier's disposition and conduct were pointed out by the messenger of Dya-Krishen, and he concluded with an earnest entreaty on the part of the Rajah to me, that I would either permit him to resign a situation which he had been called to with my concurrence, or take such measures as might enable him to do the duties of it with credit and comfort to himself, and to the satisfaction and advantage of his Sovereign. I replied, that I could not interfere between the Vizier and the servants of his Government, but should report the substance of his message, and all the circumstances which had come to my knowledge on the subject of it, to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General; and I advised both the Rajah and Moatumud-ood-Dowlah,
not

not to think of retiring from office till the result of my reference should be known, but to labour assiduously, in the mean time, to regain the confidence of their Sovereign by every means in their power.

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Consultations,
2 Aug. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

17. The Vizier did me the honour of breakfasting with me this morning, and I was agreeably disappointed at seeing both the ministers in his Excellency's suite. They remained in attendance on me for an hour after his Excellency's departure, and renewed the subject of their complaint of a total want of authority to conduct the affairs of the State, or make any satisfactory arrangements for the settlement and collection of the revenue in the ensuing Fusly year. At present I see no probability of their regaining the confidence of their sovereign, nor of the successful discharge of their duties in any branch of the administration ; while, on the other hand, I am perfectly satisfied, that in the case of their retirement or dismissal, a similar state of things will be produced within a very short period of time with respect to their successors in office, unless supported by our Government decidedly, and in a manner that appears to be incompatible with the view which the Governor-General entertains of the independency of the sovereignty of Oude and its relations with the British Government of India. And under this conviction, I apprehend that a prosecution of the objects of reform may ultimately bring discredit on our Government as the advisers of it, without any advantage whatever to the Sovereign or people of Oude.

18. It is still possible, however, that a favourable change may take place in the counsels of his Excellency the Vizier, the fickleness of whose temper may induce him, in a very few days, to banish from his favour and presence those persons by whom his Ministers are opposed, and to re-establish the authority of the Ministers on a more permanent footing than before. And although I consider myself to be precluded from offering any urgent or unsolicited advice to his Excellency, with a view to the support of his Ministers, I shall not fail to take advantage of every opportunity that he may give to me, of encouraging a disposition in their favour, should such a disposition appear.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th July 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 30th August 1815.

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Consultations,
30 Aug. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, a duplicate of a despatch dated the 5th and 7th instant, which I have this day transmitted to the Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
7th August 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq , Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Sir :

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

1. Shortly after the appointment by his Excellency the Vizier of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah and Dya-Krishen to the offices of Naib and Dewan, it was settled between his Excellency and me, that Moatumud-ood-Dowlah should be the channel of all communications on business, both written and verbal, between us ; and accordingly it was my daily practice, till the departure of the Ministers to Futtugurh, to transmit my letters for the Vizier, in the evening, to Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, who submitted them to his Excellency in the morning, and brought

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

or sent to me the answers in the course of the following day. On the departure of the Minister to Futtygurh, a person named Meer Elahie Bukhsh, a near relation of the Minister's, was selected and recommended by him, and appointed by his Excellency the Vizier to perform this part of his duty, and since the Minister's return to Lucknow, although his personal attendance on me has gradually diminished in frequency, and of late has entirely ceased, the practice of transmitting my letters and verbal applications through him has never been departed from on my part, and I resolved to observe it invariably till his Excellency should formally announce to me his suspension of the Minister's functions.

2. On Thursday the 3d instant I received a message from the Vizier by Mirza Hajee to the following effect: That as my letters and messages to his Excellency, conveyed through the medium of Moatumud-ood Dowlah, did not arrive at a proper time, and as his Excellency had recently appointed a Moonshee and other public officers to transact business in the name of his son, it was his Excellency's particular desire that my letters and applications of all kinds should in future be forwarded to his son, and not through the medium of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah.

3. The obvious meaning of this message could not be misunderstood. The Vizier might with equal propriety, and with more dignity, have addressed me, or directed Mirza Hajee to address me in these words: "I have thought proper to suspend my Minister, and you will consider his functions as at an end." I replied to his Excellency's message in the following terms, which I have since committed to writing and sent to him in the form of a note. "The appointment of your Excellency's son to the office of principal Minister, and of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to that of Naib, took place at the same time, and your Excellency then desired that all my communications on business, whether verbal or written, should be sent to you through the medium of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah. I complied with your Excellency's desire, no less from a cordial disposition to consult your pleasure in all things, than from a conviction that the arrangement was salutary, and calculated to facilitate and expedite the transaction of public business.

"On the departure of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to Futtygurh, your Excellency was pleased to appoint a person related to the Naib, and enjoying his particular confidence, to perform that part of his duty which had reference to my official station; and I continued to submit my communications through the medium of the person so appointed until Moatumud-ood-Dowlah's return, when I resumed my original practice. It is now your Excellency's pleasure to suspend those functions of the Naib which rendered him the channel of communication between your Excellency and me, and as I am ever most cordially disposed to consult your gratification in all things, I shall, of course, discontinue the transmission of my letters and applications to your Excellency through the medium of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah."

"But as the arrangement with regard to the prince, which your Excellency seems to desire, appears to me to resemble the practice of your illustrious father (whose mansion is paradise) with reference to his son, Shums-ood-Dowlah, who though the nominal Minister of the Government had no authority in the State, and was never the channel of communication between his father and the Resident at this Court, I propose, with your Excellency's sanction, to consider your Excellency's son as in the same situation exactly in which Shums-ood-Dowlah was placed, and to transmit my letters hereafter, as in the time of your Excellency's father, by the hands of a servant of my own, who will have the honour of waiting on your Excellency at such hour as may be convenient to yourself."

4. The Vizier has acquiesced in my proposal that my letters should be sent to him directly, replying to my message in these words:

"That the object of his proposal was no more than to promote the education of his son, who was in reality the Minister of his Government, and that as I had originally taken pains to teach his Excellency the public business of the State on his first accession to the musnud, he expected similar advantages

"to

“ to his son from my friendly tuition.” Nevertheless, it is evident to me that the real design of the Vizier is to supersede even the shadow of authority which Moatumud-ood-Dowlah has been permitted to retain since his return from the deputation to Futtygurh : and thus, for the present, I must consider the administration of the Government of Oude to be re-established in every respect on the same footing on which it was conducted in the time of the late Vizier ; but with one remarkable distinction to the prejudice of the present time, that the talents and understanding of this Vizier are in my opinion greatly inferior to those of his Excellency’s father.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 Aug. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

5. The actual state of the country is accordingly worse at this time than I recollect it at any former period. With the authority of the Minister and Dewan, that of the Nazims and Tehsildars has also vanished ; excepting in the case of Hukeem Mehdee, who is said to be in favour with the Vizier, and to be supported by Gholaum Alee Khan and Mirza Hajee, who seem now to be the principal counsellors. It is almost superfluous to add, that the measures of reform are at a stand, and that instead of magistrates and collectors with an efficient police and Tehsildars, the Zillahs are at present under the management of his Excellency’s news-writers and Hurkarras, who may exercise unlimited authority over the constituted officers of the Government, and encourage the landholders to revolt.

6. Under these circumstances, I deem it to be my duty to represent to you, for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that the arrangement thus announced to me by the Vizier for the future transaction of business between his Excellency and the Resident at his Court, as suspending the most important of the functions of his Excellency’s subordinate minister, to whom alone the suggestions of the Resident could be conveyed without reserve and with effect, is likely, in my judgment, to be productive of consequences highly injurious to the just ascendancy of the influence of the British counsels in Oude and the combined interests of the two States.

7. It is still possible, however, that the fickleness of the Vizier’s disposition may operate a remedy for the disorder that seems now to pervade his administration within a limited period of time. The removal from his Excellency’s presence of two or three evil advisers, who obtained an influence over his Excellency’s mind during the absence of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and have been enabled by fortuitous circumstances to preserve that influence since his return, would prove sufficient at any time to restore the due authority of the Minister over every department of the administration, and to re-establish the ascendancy of those counsels, which can have no other motive nor object than the honour and interests of the Sovereign and the happiness of the people of Oude. It is possible, as I stated above, and in my judgment highly desirable, that this salutary change should be produced without any interference on my part ; but it is a question which I am bound to submit for Lord Moira’s consideration and decision, whether or not that interference be authorized in the form of a friendly remonstrance, should it hereafter appear to be indispensable by the continuance of the present state of things, and an injurious delay to make arrangements for the settlement and collection of the revenue in the ensuing Fusly year, in conformity with the new system.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
5th August 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

P.S. 7th August 1815. Since writing the above, I have had the honour of receiving a letter from his Excellency the Vizier, the subject of which appears to me to require the more immediate attention of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and accordingly I annex a translation of the letter and a copy of my answer to it, for his Lordship’s perusal and consideration. Persian copies of both are also transmitted by this despatch.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 Aug. 1815.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 6th August 1815.)

Seyyud-Kootb-ood-Deen Hussun Khan, Nazim of the Zillah of Sandee, being in attendance at this place, the accounts of receipt and disbursement of the revenue of that Zillah shall be immediately required from him and examined; and as the Fusly year is at an end, shookhas will be written and issued to all the other five Nazims of Zillahs, directing their immediate attendance with their accounts for the purpose of examination and adjustment. This is written for your information.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 6th August 1815.)

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's gracious letter of this date, apprizing me of the attendance of the Nazim of Sandee in your Excellency's presence, and of your intention to summon the other five Nazims of Zillahs to Lucknow for the purpose of settling their accounts.

The examination and adjustment of the accounts of all the Nazims of districts in your Excellency's dominions form an object of the highest importance, and I concur with your Excellency entirely in the propriety and necessity of commencing them without any delay. I am further of opinion with your Excellency, that it may be proper in several cases, and in some indispensable, to require the personal attendance of the Nazims for the purpose of adjusting their accounts, provided that the public inconvenience to be apprehended from their absence from their Zillahs do not appear to be greater than can arise from some delay in the adjustment of their accounts.

But, on the other hand, I submit to your Excellency that the removal of all the Nazims at one time from their districts, as it seems impossible that the examination of all the accounts should be in progress at the same time, must not only be unprofitable and inexpedient, but may also be productive of considerable disorder in the country, from the absence of all the local authorities of the districts at the same period of time. It were better, in my humble opinion, that the Nazims should be summoned to the Presence successively, one after another; and that when the accounts of one shall be carefully inspected and adjusted to your Excellency's perfect satisfaction, *that* one be dismissed to his district, or if his conduct prove dissatisfactory to your Excellency, another person be appointed in his room, and the next Nazim in succession attend and submit his accounts. One or two of the districts, I apprehend, may be considered at present in such a state as to preclude the removal of the Nazim, or local authority of the Zillah, without danger of public disorder; and, in this case, it appears to be expedient that the Naib Nazim, and his Dewan or assistants, be summoned in the room of the Nazim for the purpose of submitting his accounts.

With a reference, in particular, to Moontuzim-ood-Dowlah, Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, the tenor of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General's remarks on the character and conduct of this person, contained in his Lordship's answers to your Excellency's paper of requests bearing date the 12th November 1814, would appear to my judgment to suggest that your Excellency should reconsider the propriety of summoning Hukeem Mehdee to the Presence, and if your Excellency will be pleased to peruse the enclosed extract from that paper, you will, I doubt not, concur in opinion with your Excellency's fervent well-wisher, that the sanction of your sincere friend the Right Honourable the Governor-General my Lord Moira should be sought and obtained, to the measure of recalling Hukeem Mehdee to your Presence, before it be carried into effect.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th, September 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept. 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, a duplicate of my despatch of this date, addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
4th September 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. Be pleased to submit to the notice of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General the enclosed translation of a letter which I received from his Excellency the Vizier on the 30th ultimo, requesting my friendly advice on the subject of the settlement of his revenue for the ensuing Fusly year, and copy of my answer to that letter.

2. A favourable change has appeared to me in the disposition of his Excellency the Vizier since the receipt of the letter from Lord Moira declining an interview with his Excellency, which was conveyed to me by the Persian Secretary in his despatch of the 18th ultimo, and which I presented to his Excellency on the 23d. The Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, is unhappily still, as before, the object of his Excellency's aversion, and of a persecution unnatural and unjust ; but the Dewan has been reinstated in office, and directed by his Excellency to resume his occasional attendance on me, for the purpose of receiving my advice with a view to the settlement of the country.

3. One obvious and essential advantage may arise from this partial recurrence, on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, to those salutary practices and observances with which his Excellency commenced the reform in the month of December last. My suggestions to Rajah Dya-Krishen if implicitly followed by the Vizier, as his Excellency has promised to comply with them, will necessarily check the disorders which have recently arisen in the country, and will enable the Nazims to take measures preparatory to the settlement of the revenue for the ensuing Fusly year.

4. But the limited influence of Rajah Dya-Krishen over the mind of his Excellency the Vizier, and the opposition to his judicious counsels by a number of intriguers about the Court, supported by the inventions of news-writers employed in every district of the country, preclude the expectation in my mind of any permanent advantage from the advice which I have submitted to his Excellency on this occasion, or from suggestions which I may offer to him hereafter, until the return of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to favour, or the appointment of some other efficient minister, possessing the confidence of both States and supported by our Government, in such a manner as to preclude the success of intrigues against him, of a nature similar to those which have occasioned the downfall of Agha Meer.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th September 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Written by his own hand. Received the
23d Rumzaun 1230, 30th August 1815.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

My Uncle :

The loss which my Government has sustained since the commencement of the Fusly year 1222 from the salaries granted to the Nazims and the expenses of
8 P their

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept. 1815.

Letter
from the Vizier.

their establishments, and also from people appointing their own sons and other relations to the situation of Ameens, for the purpose of appropriating the commission of ten per centum and other emoluments to themselves, need not to be explained to you, and the interests of the two States being identified, the Honourable Company must necessarily participate in my loss.

As it is ever my wish and intention, both from a consideration of the friendship subsisting between the two States, and more especially from motives of personal friendship for you, to advise with, and consult you in all things, and as I am further fully persuaded that you will always be influenced in advising me by motives of friendship and regard for the true interests of my Government, the success and prosperity of which you consider as involving your own good name and reputation, I therefore with sincerity of heart solicit your opinion and advice regarding the settlement of the revenue of my country for the ensuing Fusly year, in such a manner as that the Ryots may be happy, the country flourishing, the just dues of the State may be realized, no loss may arise to the Government, the British troops may punish the turbulent and refractory, and the commanding-officers be prevented from interfering between the officers of the Government and the Zemindars.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 1st September 1815.)

In conformity with my promise of the day before yesterday, I now submit to your Excellency my genuine sentiments on the subject of your Excellency's gracious letter under date the 30th ultimo.

With a reference to the amount of the loss which your Excellency has ascribed in your letter to the salaries granted to the Nazims and the expenses of their establishments, I am clearly and decidedly of opinion, after a careful examination of the subject, that no loss whatever can be said to have resulted to your Excellency from this particular arrangement: nay, I am satisfied that, on a comparison of the two, the expense of the nizamat establishment for a Zillah, under the new system, will be found to be less than the amount of the salaries and establishments that were formerly paid to Ameens of the several districts or purgunnahs which are now comprehended in that Zillah, exclusively of the charges of collection or sebundy, which were then, as they now are, distinct from the civil establishments.

It is further my humble opinion, that if your Excellency determine to reduce the salaries and establishments of the Nazims so much below the present standard of their allowances as to form an inadequate support for persons of respectability and talents in the discharge of offices of such importance, the necessary consequence of such reduction will be a recurrence to practices more injurious to the true interests of your Government, and to the comfort and happiness of your subjects, than any loss that could arise from the liberal payment of those officers.

Your Excellency has referred to a loss occasioned by the grant of a commission of ten per centum on the revenue in lieu of charges of collection, in consequence of some of the Nazims having appointed their own sons and relations to the situation of Ameens or Tehsildars.

On the general question of the expediency of continuing the commission to Tehsildars, the clear and comprehensive view which his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General has taken of this subject, in his letter to your Excellency's address of the 26th June last (17th Rujeeb, A. H. 1230), supersedes all remarks upon my part; but with a reference to the particular ground of loss which your Excellency has referred to on this occasion, it would seem to my judgement quite imaginary, since it is obvious that if the public duties of Tehsildar be faithfully and uprightly discharged, and the full amount of the revenue be paid into your Excellency's treasury by the persons holding those

those offices, it can make no difference to your Excellency in point of actual expense, whether these persons be the sons and relations of the Nazim, or utter strangers to those officers. In either case alike it is manifest, that your Excellency has the commission of ten per centum, and no more than that commission, to pay on the actual receipts into the treasury. Besides, the appointment of Tehsildars under the new system rests exclusively with your Excellency, not the Nazims: the Nazims, it is true, may recommend persons for those situations, but your Excellency alone can appoint; and I conclude that none of the Nazims would presume to grant a sunnud of tehsildaree to any person without reporting the circumstance in the first instance, and obtaining your Excellency's consent. But if a Nazim should have acted so improperly, his appointment is necessarily invalid, and not only defeats the object, but subjects him to your Excellency's displeasure.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Sept 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

The sentiment of implicit reliance on my genuine friendship and regard, which has prompted your Excellency to consult me on the most advantageous mode of concluding the settlement of your dominions for the ensuing Fusly year, demands my most grateful acknowledgment, and is a source of the highest gratification to my mind.

In the spirit of that cordial friendship on which your Excellency has expressed your reliance, I submit as my decided opinion, and as that of the Government which I represent, and which has ever manifested to your Excellency the truest and most disinterested friendship, that every one of the salutary objects which your Excellency has proposed for my consideration may be expected, nay, must necessarily result, from a firm and resolute adherence to the system recently introduced: the system which your Excellency adopted by a free and unqualified declaration in your letter to the Right Honourable the Governor-General of the 4th of December last (21st Zehijj A.H. 1229), accompanied by a solemn assurance that the details of it should be conducted by your Ministers with my uniform concurrence and advice; a system which, though yet in its infancy during the last Fusly year, though its progress and success have been opposed by a number of fortuitous circumstances, though its radical principles have been perverted and most of its regulations departed from during the last three months, I may say, has nevertheless been productive of benefit rather than loss to the State, has ameliorated the condition of the ryots, and has established a solid foundation for future progressive improvement of the revenue and resources of the country; nay, in the matter of actual collection or receipt of revenue into the treasury, if compared with the preceding year, has occasioned no loss to your Excellency, although in one particular district or two, from the incapacity of the Nazim or other causes, a trifling defalcation may have occurred, which the arrangements for the ensuing year might easily do more than compensate.

Under all these circumstances, it must be obvious that the best, and indeed the only advice which I can now submit to your Excellency, is a firm and determined perseverance in the principles of the new system, and a strict observance of its rules in the settlement of your Excellency's revenue for the ensuing Fusly year.

If your Excellency, in the spirit of your letter to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General under date the 4th December, and of his Lordship's friendly advice in his several letters to your Excellency, more particularly that under date the 26th of June last (17th Rujeeb, A.H. 1230), will be pleased to resume the intentions, to recur to the salutary proceedings which are stated and recommended in those letters, to put a stop to those injurious practices which are subversive of every principle of good government, as well as of the particular system which has recently been introduced into your dominions, and will direct the resumption of those observances on the part of your ministers towards me, which are essential to the success of their administration, the benefits to be derived from this arrangement will soon be so apparent to your Excellency, as to impress you with the fullest conviction that the system recommended by our Government is the best that could possibly be devised for the future settlement of your country. But, on the other hand, if your Excellency be not cordially disposed and firmly resolved to pursue the particular line of conduct, which I have here submitted for your consideration as essential to the success of the reform and to the future good government of the country, and the smallest

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20 Sept. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

smallest departure from which might not only be productive of the disappointment of all the salutary purposes for which this system was recommended to your adoption, but might also unjustly bring discredit on the character of the system itself; the friendship which I entertain for your Excellency, and motives of candour impel me to caution your Excellency most solemnly against the further prosecution of this system, under circumstances that are likely to defeat it, and thus to exonerate myself from responsibility for the consequences which must result from a nominal adoption of its principles, accompanied by an infraction of its rules. Your Excellency should maturely consider all the circumstances which are stated in this letter, and you may then with propriety determine either to persevere in the system of reform, or to devise some other arrangement, more conducive to the success of your Government and to the comfort and happiness of your subjects, communicating your resolution, of course, to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General before it be carried into effect.

With regard to your Excellency's desire of the punishment of the turbulent and refractory by means of the British troops: As the sole purpose of stationing our troops in your Excellency's dominions is the support of your Excellency's Government and suppression of the rebellious and disorderly, they shall, of course, be punished as you desire, and the commanding-officers of our troops shall never be permitted to interfere in the settlement or assessment of the revenue between the officers of the Government and the Zemindars.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Oct. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 7th October 1815.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government.
Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President and for record, the accompanying copy of a letter addressed this day, under the authority of the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to his despatch of the 4th instant.

I have, &c.

Patna,
24th September 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 4th instant, enclosing the copy and translation of a letter addressed to you by his Excellency the Vizier, soliciting your advice relative to the settlement of the revenue of the country for the ensuing year and of your reply.

2. The Governor-General directs me to signify to you his entire approbation of the tenor of your reply to the Vizier, and to express his hope that the counsel which you have conveyed to his Excellency may be adopted and acted upon.

3. His Lordship suspends his observations on the other topics adverted to in your letter enclosing the correspondence above referred to until the preparation of instructions in reply to some of your late despatches, which are now under consideration.

I have, &c.

Patna,
24th September 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 20th October 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Oct. 1815.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political
Department.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

Be pleased to submit to the notice of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General the enclosed translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Vizier, announcing the removal of two of his Excellency's Nazims and appointment of other officers in their room, and requiring the aid of our troops in support of the authority of those officers.

2. I have complied with his Excellency's requisition, by issuing instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser commanding the troops at Secroa, a copy of which is enclosed, and I expect in a few days to have occasion to send similar instructions to the commanding officers at Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh. In the former of those districts particularly, there are several refractory landholders in possession of strong forts who have resisted the authority of the Government, and withheld the revenue of their estates for a period of several years, and whose suppression has been necessarily postponed, from the want of a battering train to be employed in the reduction of their fortresses.

3. With a reference to the purport of your letter under date the 21st of December last, I deem it proper to take this opportunity of apprizing you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, of the apparent necessity that exists for the employment of a battering train in the districts of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh during the ensuing cold season, and I beg to be favoured with a communication of his Lordship's sentiments and commands respecting the practicability of this measure, and the manner of carrying it into effect with the least public inconvenience.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
27th September 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 23d September 1815.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

Sewuck Ram having been recently appointed to the office of Nazim of Zillah Dureeabad in the room of Jāfer Alee Khan, removed for incapacity, and Goburdhun to that of Nazim of Zillah Lucknow, in the place of Agha Alee Khan, a minor, I therefore desire that you will write to the commanding officers at the different stations, in the usual terms, to assist and support the authority of the newly-appointed Nazims, and to comply with their requisitions for the punishment of the refractory and rebellious landholders, and send your letters to me.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding the Troops at Secroa.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

1. The conduct of Meer Jāfer Alee Khan in the station of Nazim of Baraitch having failed to give satisfaction to the Vizier, his Excellency has been pleased to remove that person from office, and to appoint Lalla Sewuck Ram in his stead.

2. The latter officer will accordingly have the honour of presenting or forwarding this letter to you, and you will be pleased to consider him as the Vizier's Nazim of Dureeabad and Baraitch, and to comply with his eventual requisitions for the aid of the troops under your command, in support of his authority over the landholders, whose refractory conduct of late, as represented by the Ameens

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20 Oct. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

of those districts, and more particularly by Umr Sing of Baraitch (an extract from whose arzee is transmitted to you), will, I fear, occasion a necessity for resorting to measures of coercion, when the season of the year shall admit of your undertaking military operations.

3. It is highly probable, however, that the statement of Umr Sing is exaggerated, and that the prudent conduct of the newly-appointed Nazim of the district, with the aid of a declaration on your part to the several refractory landholders that you are instructed and prepared to support him with the whole of the force under your command, may induce the surrender of the ghurries and the return of the landholders to their allegiance, without any more active operations, which it is, of course, most desirable to avoid, except in cases of absolute necessity.

4. You are apprized of the intention of his Excellency the Vizier to furnish you with some battering guns from his Excellency's arsenal at this place, as soon as they can be properly equipped; and in the case of your requiring a reinforcement to the actual strength of your battalion, it occurs to me to suggest for consideration, that your detachment, which is serving at Buhramgath, might be relieved by two companies from Seetapore, so as to render your battalion complete, in the case of its services being required. I request a communication of your sentiments on the eventual necessity of this measure, and

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
25th September 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extracts from the Arzee of Umr Sing, Ameen of Baraitch, dated the 15th of September 1815.

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's shookka, dated the 10th instant, commanding me to submit to the Presence a detailed statement of the names of the refractory landholders in my district, with a list of their forts, the number of their followers, the amount of the balances due by each of them for the year 1222 Fusly, particularly specifying whether the defalcations were occasioned by a disposition to resist authority or by some other cause, and the most effectual means of putting a stop to all disorders in the district.

May it please your Excellency:—The disorderly practices of the refractory Zemindars in this district, their total disregard of authority, the erection of ghurries, and the impracticability of effecting an equitable assessment, in consequence of their rebellious conduct, have been regularly reported to the Presence by your slave; but, in obedience to your Excellency's orders, I again submit a particular account of each refractory Zemindar, and I submit it to your Excellency's wisdom to adopt such measures for the suppression of these disorders as may deter others from the like practices in future.

List of refractory Zemindars, the Places of their abode, and the number of their Followers.

Dulthumun and Bhojung, Zemindars of Peeagpore, are extremely turbulent and refractory. Besides their usual followers, they have entertained a thousand additional matchlockmen this year. They possess two strong forts with several guns in the jungles of Peeagpore and Mulheepore, from whence they make occasional irruptions to ravage all the villages in the district of Baraitch.

Mandhattah Sing, Zemindar of Ekowneh, has built a fort in the middle of a very thick jungle, and retains seven or eight hundred matchlockmen in his pay.

Kishen Pershaud, Zemindar of Gungowl, has built two strong ghurries, one at Gungowl the other at Bungao, both of which are surrounded by thick jungle. Has also about five hundred matchlockmen in his employ.

Dewun

Dewun Sing, Bhowanee Sing, Goordut Sing, and other Zemindars of Regwarhurharpore, have lately entertained about five or six hundred matchlockmen, and erected ghurries in the jungle of Sehar on the bank of the Teedhee river near the jungle of Peeagpore, and in the village of Bhunghosera belonging to Gungowl, also surrounded by jungle, from which they make predatory excursions into Baraitch.

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Dhokul Sing and Bhowanee Bukhsb, Zemindars of Pusgao Kumgar in purgunnah Guaritch, usually reside on an island in the Gogra, the district of Downa, on the opposite side of the river, in purgunnah Dureeabad or in the village of Chowkutha, in the district of Muhadewa, belonging to the Honourable Company. They have a large body of armed followers. Two or three large boats would be required for the use of the detachment sent against them.

Duljeet Sing and Runjeet Sing, Zemindars of Puruspoor in purgunnah Guaritch, have taken refuge in the Honourable Company's territories, where the Thanadar of Wuzeergunge protects them, and prevents their Ryots from cultivating the lands.

Rugoonath, Jung Behauder, and Bhiman, Zemindars of talooka Shahpore and Dhumao, in the purgunnah of Guaritch, have been seized; but Juskurrun Sing, the Tufreekdar of Jung Behauder has effected his escape.

Mandhattah Sing, son of Sheopersaud, Zemindar of Bumnowtee, has erected three strong forts, one at the village of Bondhee, another at the village of Bukneea, the third at the village of Bulba, surrounded by thick jungles, from which he daily and nightly threatens predatory attacks on Baraitch. He has about fifteen hundred matchlockmen. As the village of Bukneea stands on an island in the Gogra, two or three large boats and one or two battering guns will be required for this service.

In the purgunnah of Bulrampore, Kulundera Shegal Khor has erected a fort with the consent of the Zemindar; and Arjeen Sing, son of Newul Sing, the Zemindar, has built another. Heavy guns will also be required for the reduction of these forts.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 27th ultimo, reporting a change of two of his Excellency the Nabob Vizier's Nazims of districts, and intimating the probable necessity of employing a battering-train in the course of the ensuing cold season, for the reduction of certain forts in the Vizier's dominions.

2. The tenor of your instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, of which a copy was enclosed in your despatch above acknowledged, is entirely approved; and with respect to the measure of employing a battering-train, the subject will be brought under the consideration of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and you will hereafter be apprized of the mode in which it may be determined to provide the battering-train for the purpose required.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
20th October 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter from the Resident at Lucknow be sent to the Adjutant-General with the following letter :

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 Oct. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fagan, Adjutant-General.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Resident at Lucknow, dated the 27th ultimo, for the purpose of being laid before his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and to intimate to you the request of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, that with reference to the eventual necessity of employing a battering-train in the districts of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will take the subject into his consideration, and communicate his sentiments with regard to the means of furnishing a battering-train, with the least public inconvenience, for the purposes required.

I have, &c.

Council Chamber,
20th October 1815.

(Signed) J. Adam,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 Oct. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 27th October 1815.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. Since the despatch of my letter to your address, under date the 27th of September last, I have had some further requisitions from his Excellency the Vizier for the suppression of his rebellious landholders ; and the officers commanding our troops at the stations of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh have been applied to by his Excellency's Nazims for detachments to support their authority in the districts under their charge. A number of desultory operations have taken place under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege, at the requisition of the Nazim of Purtaubgurh, for the seizure of defaulters and marauders, and the general success of those operations has apparently had a salutary effect towards restoring the tranquillity of that district. I transmit, for more particular information on the subject of Colonel Cumberlege's proceedings, some extracts from official letters which have passed between that officer and me.

2. The state of the district of Sultanpore must remain as at present, I apprehend, till a battering-train can be furnished for the reduction of some places of strength which are occupied by powerful landholders, who have long been in actual rebellion ; but as his Excellency the Vizier and his Nazim have been very urgent of late for the suppression of those rebellious landholders, I have deemed it incumbent on me to authorize the commanding-officer at Sultanpore to employ the force at his disposal in support of the authority of the Nazim, to the utmost practicable extent, without incurring the hazard of a failure ; and, for further information on this subject, I take the liberty of referring his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General to the enclosed copies of letters which have passed between Major Duncan and me.

3. In addition to the instances of removal and appointment of Nazims which were noticed in my despatch of the 27th ultimo, his Excellency the Vizier was yesterday pleased to announce to me his removal of Kooar Ruttun Sing, a deserving officer in my opinion, and son-in-law of Rajah Dya-Krishen, the Dewan, from the office of Nazim of Bareilly, and the nomination of his Excellency's grandson, Mirza Mohun Alee Khan, to that office, with the appointment of an efficient revenue officer, named Soobhan Alee Khan, to the station of Naib, or Deputy Nazim, on the part of the young Mirza. This arrangement, though by no means such as I could approve, was announced to me in a manner which precluded my suggesting any serious objection to it, without hazarding the displeasure of the Vizier and exciting his particular resentment against Rajah Dya-Krishen, whose relation I must have appeared to support by remonstrating against the appointment of another, and more particularly of his Excellency's grandson, to the office of Nazim of Bareilly.

In

In addition to the above consideration, the character of Soobhan Alee Khan as an efficient revenue officer, and at the same of an intriguing disposition, made me desirous of his employment in a situation where his talents and experience might be useful at a distance from the scene of intrigue. Soobhan Alee Khan, and his kinsman Taj-ood-Deen Hoosein Khan, were the zealous coadjutors of Hukeem Mehdee in his devices for the subversion of the reform.

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. I have recently refrained from reporting to you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the progress of the measures of oppression which are daily practised against Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, with the view, as there seems reason to believe, of driving him to some act of desperation, which may be used as a pretext for his destruction, or of inducing him to destroy himself. The whole of his personal property, including some houses and grounds which he had purchased while in the station of Minister, has been distrained and disposed of by public sale, or restored to the former possessors without requiring the restitution of the price, at the instance of creditors and complainants, whose demands and complaints have been acted on, without any the smallest investigation, or even his being heard in defence.

5. A circumstance of this nature occurred on Thursday the 5th instant, when a person named Behauder Khan, who had sold a house to Moatumud-ood-Dowlah for the sum of 500 rupees, was instigated to demand repossession of the house on the ground of an involuntary sale of it; and in consequence of this complaint, without any investigation whatever, the Cutwal of the city was ordered to dispossess the Minister of the premises. Moatumud-ood-Dowlah requested a delay of a few hours, for the purpose of removing his property, produced a receipt for the price of the house under the seal of the person from whom he had purchased it, and offered an arzee on the subject to be presented to his Excellency the Vizier. The Cutwal, instructed by Mozuffer Alee Khan, instead of listening to Moatumud-ood-Dowlah's entreaty, sent a party of armed men to the house to dispossess the Minister's servants and throw his property into the street, which was done accordingly with violence and with the greatest abuse of the Minister, who would probably have sacrificed his life had he opposed the execution of the order. He sent a message to implore my interference, for the purpose of saving him from this disgrace; which I was sorry to be compelled to decline, on the ground of my reference to the Government, which had not yet been replied to.

6. I see no prospect whatever of the recall of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to favour; and the miserable state of degradation to which he has now been reduced would seem almost to unfit him for the exercise of ministerial authority under this Government, even if the Vizier was induced to restore him, at the recommendation of the Governor General, to the station from which he has fallen.

7. My personal regard for Agha Meer, which is founded on my knowledge of his possessing some highly estimable qualities, would lead me rather to desire that he were settled in comfortable retirement, with a suitable provision for his maintenance from a master whom he has faithfully served, than that he were replaced in a public situation, the precarious nature of which, and the terms on which it must be holden under a prince of his master's disposition, should render it an object of horror to every well regulated mind.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th October 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extracts from Letters from Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, to Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, dated the 28th September and 4th October 1815.

(Letter of 28th September 1815.)

1. In my letter to you of the 18th instant I did myself the honour to acquaint you of the march of Lieutnant Oliphant's detachment to Chendokah; but

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finding that force insufficient for the purposes mentioned in my letter, I desired Captain Ridge to send a company from his detachment on the 22d instant to Chendokah, and directed Lieutenant Oliphant to proceed to Lowreeah, about three coss distant.

2. On the 24th instant Lieutenant Oliphant marched and seized Ramdial, Zemindar of Lowreeah, who had been for some time past assisting Lulloo; and on the same day Lieutenant Bamguardt, who commands the company detached by Captain Ridge, made a forced march and seized Ousane Sing, Zemindar of Kessanee with six of his followers, adherents of Lulloo, taking his ghurry by surprise, which is situated in the jungle, and very strong.

3. On the 27th instant Lieutenant Bamguardt made another forced march and seized the Zemindar of Khanderpore, whose son, Sewbuccas, has been long connected with Lulloo in his depredations; and that you may be the better enabled to judge of the difficulties of this service, I beg leave to enclose his letter on the subject.

4. The two ghurries or fortified villages of Kessanee and Khanderpore are represented as very strong; I have, therefore, written to Rajah Bluwanee Pershaud to send bildars to destroy their defences without delay, and the prisoners have all been sent to him with an account of their offences.

5. Enclosed I forward you a copy of my letter of this date to Lieutenant Bamguardt, as also a list of villages and Zemindars connected with Lulloo, and beg your instructions on the subject as soon as possible, as the combination appears very extensive.

6. Since writing the foregoing, I have the pleasure to inform you that Bundeshuree Bukhsh has come in and made his submission to the Nazim, and I hope all will now be settled in the Duleebpore district. I shall write to the Rajah not to be severe with him, in case he gives ample security for his future good conduct. Enclosed is a copy of the letter giving me this information.

(Letter of the 4th October 1815.)

I have the pleasure to forward to you a letter from Captain Charles Ridge, dated the 3d instant, reporting the surprise of the fort of Ramnaghur in the Ahmety jungle, and cannot help expressing my approbation of his activity and very judicious conduct in this well-concerted expedition.

I have before brought to your notice the zealous and spirited conduct of Lieutenant Bamguardt and the light company in the surprise of three forts in the Mongra jungle, and the seizure of seven of Lulloo's adherents; and you will observe, on the present occasion, that that officer was the first who entered the fort.

In several of your letters you have mentioned that it is the wish of his Excellency the Vizier, that the whole of the forts in the district should be levelled with the ground; and as Ramnaghur is very strong, I have directed Captain Ridge to retain possession of it until I hear from you on the subject. The new fort that is now building in the vicinity by Rajah Hurchund Sing is so contrary to your instructions, that I think the circumstance cannot be known to you or his Excellency the Vizier, and must be at all times prejudicial to the peace and good order of the district, as upon every trivial dispute with the Nawaub's civil officers the Zemindars repair to their jungles and forts, and set the local authorities at defiance. These extensive jungles are also the resort of banditti and the disaffected of the country, who are supported by the Zemindars as adherents that may be depended upon when at variance with Government.

True extracts :

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Extracts

Extracts from Letters from Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, to Lieutenant-Colonel Cumberlege, commanding the Troops at Purtaubgurh, dated the 2d and 7th October 1815.

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(Letter of 2d October 1815.)

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your several despatches dated the 9th, 12th, 18th, and 28th ultimo, reporting the operations of the detachments commanded by Captain Ridge, Lieutenant Oliphant, and Lieutenant Bamguardt, against refractory landholders and marauders in the district of Deleebpore, and others, under the jurisdiction of Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud.

2. The substance of all those despatches has been communicated to his Excellency the Vizier, with suitable suggestions on my part; and the intelligence of the seizure of some adherents of the notorious marauder, Lulloo, and of the submission of Bundeshuree Bukhsh, has proved highly satisfactory to his Excellency, who concurs with me in approving the whole of your proceedings on this occasion, and particularly the zealous operations of the detachment commanded by Lieutenant Bamguardt.

3. The tenor of your instructions to that officer, and of your letter to Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud, appear to be perfectly judicious; and it is very satisfactory to observe in the Nazim's reply to your letter his ready acquiescence in your suggestions, and the expression of his cordial thanks for your zeal in support of his authority and in restoring the tranquillity of his districts.

(Letter of 7th October 1815.)

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 4th instant, conveying a copy of a letter from Captain Ridge to your address, announcing the surprise of Ramnaghur and the seizure of a person supposed to be an adherent of Lulloo, marauder.

2. The orders of his Excellency the Vizier, and my repeated instructions for the reduction of fortresses and ghurries, are so very express and explicit as to leave all the local authorities without any pretext or excuse for the existence of a fortress in their districts, unless occupied by a superior force which they may not have the means of reducing. I shall immediately call the attention of the Vizier to the gross neglect of Nowneit Rae, in permitting a fort to be constructed by the Zemindar of Ahmety; and I shall further suggest the propriety of the jungle being immediately cut down. In the mean time, you will be pleased to communicate without reserve to Nowneit Rae, and also to the Zemindar of Ahmety, the sense which I entertain of their highly improper conduct, and in which I am firmly persuaded of his Excellency the Vizier's concurrence; and you will further be pleased to require that the fort be immediately destroyed, under pain of his Excellency's displeasure, and of the severest and most exemplary punishment in the case of our troops being employed to enforce their obedience to this order.

True extracts:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Having received intimation from Rajah Bhuwanee Pershaud that he will in a few days call upon me for five companies from this post, I shall be prepared to comply with his requisition by detaching the left wing of the battalion under the command of Captain Gerard. To enable me to give Captain Gerard instructions which may accord with your intentions, I beg the favour of your letting me know whether he is to attack whatever people the Rajah may point out without enquiring into the justness of the case, or whether he may use

Letter from
Major Duncan.

conci-

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conciliatory measures, and endeavour to settle matters amicably with such Zemindars as may be willing to come to terms.

I have, &c.

Sultanpore, Oude,
4th October 1815.

(Signed) A. DUNCAN, Major,
commanding 1st Battalion 2d Regiment.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Major Duncan, commanding the Troops at Sultanpore.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 4th instant, announcing a requisition from the Nazim of Sultanpore for the aid of a detachment from your station in support of that Nazim's authority.

2. The state of the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow, and more particularly the rebellious conduct of a few of the principal landholders in those districts, have long been notoriously such, as not only to authorize but to require the adoption of the most rigorous measures for the restoration of the public tranquillity and vindication of the authority of the Government, which those landholders have openly defied for a period of two or three years. You are aware of the principal causes which precluded the adoption of those measures at the date of Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud's nomination to the office of Nazim of Sultanpore. It was found impossible to assemble a sufficient force or to equip a battering-train, for the purpose of reducing the forts of Surboodoom Sing and some other refractory landholders, during the progress of our operations against Nepaul, and therefore the Nazim was instructed to refrain from any attempt to coerce the more powerful landholders in his district till a future more convenient season.

3. I have recently represented to the Government the necessity of taking effectual measures for the reduction of the forts in Akburpore and Aldemow, and for the suppression of the refractory landholders in those districts, and an answer may soon be expected to the reference which I have made on this subject; I must therefore defer my instructions for the particular guidance of your conduct with a reference to the more powerful landholders in the districts of Akburpore and Aldemow, till I ascertain the practicability of assembling a sufficient force, and equipping a battering-train for the reduction of the forts in their occupation: and, indeed, until this be ascertained, I conceive that the march of the detachment which the Nazim has proposed to require from you would be attended with no good effect.

4. In the meantime I transmit for your information a copy and translation of an arzee addressed to his Excellency the Vizier by Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud, and sent by his Excellency to me, with a requisition for the aid of our troops in support of the Nazim's authority. If you consider the force at your disposal, united with the troops of the Nazim, to be fully adequate to the purposes of his Excellency the Vizier's requisition, as detailed in the Rajah's arzee, you will be pleased to take the necessary measures with that view at as early a period as may be practicable, and otherwise you will explain in confidence to the Nazim the necessary causes of the delay.

5. In reply to the question which you have put to me regarding the propriety of attacking all persons whom the local authority of the district may point out as rebellious or disorderly, it is to be observed as a general rule, that if the person complained against by the Nazim be ostensibly in possession of the means of opposing resistance to authority; if he occupy a fort, for example, or have a number of retainers in arms, he may justly and properly be required to surrender the fortress in his occupation, to dismiss his followers in arms, and attend in the Nazim's cutchery to settle his revenue accounts; and in the case of his refusing obedience to such a requisition as this from the Nazim or commanding-officer of the troops, he is to be considered as in actual rebellion, and deprived of the means of resistance by the reduction of his fortress or gburry, which in all cases should be levelled with the ground, and by the dispersion of his armed followers and seizure of his person if it be practicable. In cases where

where the means of resistance are not ostensibly possessed by the person represented as disorderly, it is always reasonable to doubt, and must therefore be proper to investigate, the justice of the accusation against him, and to report on the merits of it to me, for his Excellency the Vizier's information; and in every case where conciliation can be used with success by an officer commanding a detachment, in concert with the Nazim of the district or without weakening his authority, it is of course to be most zealously applied.

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27 Oct. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th October 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Arzee of Rajah Bhuwance Pershaud, Nazim of Sultanpore, &c. Written 17th September 1815.

I have had the honour of receiving your Excellency's shookha, dated the 10th ultimo, commanding me to submit to the Presence a detailed statement of the names of the refractory landholders in my district, with a list of their forts, the number of their followers, the amount of the balances due by each of them for the year 1222 Fusly, particularly specifying whether the defalcations were occasioned by a disposition to resist authority or by some other cause, and the most effectual means of putting a stop to all disorders in the district. May it please your Excellency: the Zemindars of every small village in the districts of Sultanpore, Akburpore, and Aldemow, are disorderly and refractory to the extent of their means, building ghurries and other places of defence; but the suppression of Surboodoom Sing and Zorawar Sing, Talookadars of Meapoor Dooarka, Madhoo Sing, Zemindars of Deerah, and the Baboos of Bidhur, who are the ringleaders of the rebellious and disaffected in this Zillah, keeping each a retinue of several hundred followers, and possessing a strong fort where thousands of people would assemble to support them in the case of an attack, and have not paid their revenue to the State for these two or three years past, is absolutely necessary and indispensable.

In the Fusly year 1222 those rebels insisted on getting a remission of revenue, for no other cause than their own wickedness and disaffection.

If the refractory persons above-mentioned be seized and punished, or prevented from settling in the Honourable Company's territories in the case of their escape into them, there is every reason to believe that a just assessment of the revenue may be made in their districts this year, and the punishment of any one of the ringleaders in an exemplary manner would deter the other Zemindars from opposing the settlement of the district.

List of refractory Zemindars, the Places of their Abode, and the Number of their Followers.

Surboodoom Sing and Zorawar Sing, Zemindars of Meapoor Dooarka, always retain about one thousand five hundred armed men in their pay, and on an emergency from two to four thousand men would assemble to support them. They possess eight ghurries.

Madhoo Sing, Talookadar of Deerah, has about five hundred followers, and can assemble two or three thousand men on an emergency. He possesses five strong ghurries.

The Baboos of Bidhur keep seven or eight hundred followers, and can assemble three or four thousand auxiliaries on an emergency. They have five strong forts.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Ordered, That the above despatch lie for consideration.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
27 Oct. 1815.

Letter from
Adjutant-General.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government:

Sir:

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to transmit the enclosed copy of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, commanding at Secrora, and dated the 5th instant, stating the march of the battalion under his command for the purpose of reducing to obedience certain refractory Zemindars in Oude.

Adjutant General's Office,
Presidency of Fort-William,
20th October 1815.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. H. FAGAN,
Adjutant-General.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Fraser.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Fagan, Adjutant-General.

Sir:

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, that I have received special instructions from Lieutenant-Colonel J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow, to proceed forthwith, with the whole of my battalion and field artillery attached, to the district of Baraitch, for the purpose of subduing the refractory head Zemindars in that district, said to be in great force and acting in opposition to his Excellency the Vizier's authority. They are stated to be in full possession of four or five mud forts, and have lately taken one of his Excellency's guns from the Ameen of the district. Their force has been stated to me in various ways. Some accounts augment it to five thousand, whilst others make them from three to four thousand matchlocks, under three principal head men. His Excellency has therefore suggested the necessity of adding two battering guns, properly equipped, to my detachment, with a view, should it prove necessary, to expedite the reduction of their ghurries or forts; previous to which operations every possible means of reconciliation and amicable adjustment are to be tendered by me.

It is impossible for me to form any adequate idea at present of the period at which I may effect this duty, but I shall of course report progress, or any particular occurrence that may happen.

I have, &c.

Secrora,
5th October 1815.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding at Secrora.

N. B. It did not occur to me to state that Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, with a view of wishing me to have the whole of my battalion (with the exception of an European officer, Lieutenant Colnett, and one hundred and twenty rank and file, including recruits at drill), has considered it expedient to order two companies from Seetapore to take charge of the post Buhramgath whilst Lieutenant Colnett and his detail protect the cantonments of Secrora. I commence my march on the morning of the 7th instant.

(Signed) R. FRASER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO THE

NEGOTIATION OF THE SEVERAL LOANS CONTRACTED WITH THE VIZIER

BETWEEN

THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER 1814 AND MAY 1815.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th November 1814.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Nov. 1814.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, K.B., Vice-President in
Council, &c. &c. &c.

Letter from
Governor-General.

Honourable Sir :

1. His Excellency the Vizier having, at a conference which I held with his Excellency on the 11th instant, tendered to me, as a proof of his friendship and of the cordial interest which he feels in the prosperity of the affairs of the Honourable Company, an accommodation of one crore of rupees in the way of loan, I deemed it to be my duty, in consideration of the actual state of the public finances and the probable demands arising out of the prosecution of hostilities with the Nepaulese, and the eventual necessity of supporting by military preparations our political views with relation to Saugor and Bhopaul, to accept the offer with due acknowledgments of the cordial and friendly spirit in which it was made.

2. At a subsequent conference his Excellency solicited my acceptance of the sum as a free gift to the Honourable Company ; but, for reasons which will be obvious to your Excellency in Council, I declared, with suitable expressions of my sense of this additional proof of his Excellency's friendship, my inability to receive the accommodation except as a loan.

3. It has been arranged that the sum in question shall be placed on the footing of a subscription to the six per cent. loan now open ; one moiety, or fifty lacs of rupees, to be advanced immediately, and the remaining moiety on the 1st of March 1815.

4. I have, accordingly, this day granted an acknowledgment to his Excellency under my signature and seal, for the sum of fifty lacs of Lucknow sicca rupees, to the effect of the certificates issued in ordinary course to the subscribers to the loan. A copy, in English and Persian, of that instrument, is enclosed, for the information of your Excellency in Council. A copy of the instructions issued under my orders to the Resident at the Court of the Vizier is also enclosed.

5. I have it in contemplation to propose to his Excellency the Vizier a mode of discharging the interest on this loan, which will, I persuade myself, be mutually beneficial and convenient to both Governments, and which will form the subject of a future communication.

6. I shall

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Nov. 1814.

6. I shall have the honour to address your Excellency separately in the Financial Department respecting the appropriation of the resources obtained by this transaction, and on other points referring to that department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th October 1814.

(Signed) MOIRA.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter from his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, communicating his Lordship's acceptance of the accommodation tendered by the Vizier of one crore of rupees in the way of loan, be transmitted to the Financial Department for consideration and orders.

Bengal Financial
Consultations,
11 Nov. 1814.

EXTRACT BENGAL FINANCIAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th November 1814.

Letter from
Vice-President in
Council.

Resolved, That the following letter be written to his Excellency the Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Francis Earl of Moira, K.G.,
Governor-General.

My Lord:

1. We have had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 29th ultimo, and we beg to offer our cordial congratulation on the successful issue of your Lordship's negotiation with his Highness the Nawaub Vizier for a loan of one hundred lacs of rupees to the Honourable Company. We are strongly impressed with the importance of this arrangement at the present juncture, and we entertain a very high sense of the very liberal conduct observed by his Highness on this occasion.

2. We have the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the instructions with which we judged it proper to furnish our Accountant-General, in consequence of the large addition which will be made to the public resources in the present year, by means of the loan negotiated by your Lordship on terms so extremely beneficial to the public interests.

We have, &c.

Fort-William,
7th November 1814.

(Signed) G. NUGENT,
N. B. EDMONSTONE,
A. SETON.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Nov. 1814.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 29th November 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government.

Sir:

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of his Excellency the Vice-President in Council, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Secretary to the Governor-General of yesterday's date, and of the consequent instructions issued this day, by command of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

1. I am directed by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General to acquaint you, that on the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, Mr. Newnham, the Superintendent of Resources for the Upper Provinces, was directed to submit his sentiments on the application of the fifty lacs of rupees received from his Excellency the Nawab Vizier. In a report received from Mr. Newnham in reply, he has recommended that twenty-five lacs should be immediately remitted to the Presidency, fifteen to Furruckabad, and that the remaining ten lacs be retained in the treasury at Lucknow for the use of the Residency.

2. This arrangement having been approved by the Governor-General, the Adjutant-General was requested to take the necessary steps to provide escorts for the transportation of the treasure, and I have the honour to enclose a copy of that officer's reply.

3. A communication of this arrangement has been made to his Excellency the Vice-President in Council through the Financial Department, and you will be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to the Resident at Lucknow respecting the appropriation and remittance of the money.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
7th November 1814.

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS,
Secretary to the Governor-General.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Nov. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Governor-General.

To C. M. Ricketts, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 4th instant, and to acquaint you that previous to its receipt measures had been adopted, under the authority of the Commander-in-Chief, for furnishing a sufficient escort for fifteen lacs of rupees intended to be sent to Furruckabad, by means of a detachment from the second battalion of the Seventh Regiment.

Measures have likewise been taken, in concert with the Resident at this Court, for sending the treasure mentioned in your letter as intended for the Presidency by water from this to Sultanpore, Oude, whence it will be escorted down the Goomty and Ganges, either by the right wing of the second battalion of the Twenty-second, or a sufficient detachment from it, to Fort-William, the destination of that corps in order of the relief.

The above wing will be relieved and ready to proceed to the Presidency by the 22d or 25th instant.

I have, &c.

Head Quarters, Camp, Lucknow,
5th November 1814.

(Signed) G. H. FAGAN,
Adjutant-General.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Governor-General, under date the 7th instant, and of its enclosure, and to desire that you will carry into effect the arrangement described in that letter, for the appropriation of the first payment of fifty lacs of rupees by his Excellency the Vizier.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 13th December 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir George Nugent, Bart., K. B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the accompanying duplicate of my despatch of the 19th instant to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department, and also a duplicate of a letter which I have addressed to that officer this day.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
23d November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

1. I had the honour of reporting in person to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, the acquiescence of his Excellency the Vizier in the proposal which I submitted to his Excellency for the application of the interest of the sum of a crore of rupees, advanced as a loan to the Honourable Company by the Vizier, to the payment of the stipends and provisions which are payable by his Excellency's Government under the Honourable Company's guarantee.

2. I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for his Lordship's more particular information, a copy and translation of a letter and statement of stipends which I have submitted to his Excellency the Vizier, and translations of a letter and statement which I have received from his Excellency in reply.

3. The Vizier's desire to exclude the widow and children of the late Nawaub Ashruf Alee Khan from the influence of the beneficial arrangement, which has now been proposed to his Excellency, is not only untoward but embarrassing. By the tenor of Lord Teignmouth's letter to the Resident at Lucknow, under date the 28th of January 1798, a copy of which is enclosed, the sum of 7,000 rupees per mensem, as a provision for Ashruf Alee Khan and his relations, would appear to have been promised by the Vizier under the guarantee of the British Government; and the refusal or delay of the late and present Vizier to make payment of this provision has always been considered as a subject of just remonstrance on the part of the Resident at this Court.

4. It is, therefore, obviously desirable that the whole of the pension described, or at least that portion of it which belongs to the widow and children or near relations of the late Ashruf Alee Khan, should be included in the list of provisions to be made payable hereafter by our Government under the arrangement in discussion with the Vizier, and his Excellency's objection to this measure, proceeding as there is reason to believe from a personal dislike to some branches of the late Ashruf Alee Khan's family, is a matter of serious concern, as the only remaining source of unpleasant discussion with his Excellency on subjects of this nature.

5. With regard to his Excellency's remark, that the payment of all the pensions by our Government should commence from the 29th October last, being the day on which his Excellency's payment of a moiety of the loan to the Honourable Company was concluded, this desire can have proceeded only from the readiness which his Excellency evinced to complete the payment of a crore of rupees on the day on which the loan was agreed to, and it is for his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General to decide whether that offer on the part of the Vizier should be considered as the actual payment of the whole amount

amount of the loan, and as entitling his Excellency to the interest, or to relief from the payment of the pensions commencing on that day.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
19th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

P.S. Since writing the above, I have received a verbal intimation from the Vizier, of his acquiescence in my proposal regarding the pension of Teyubba Begum, combined with a further desire that the stipend of Mirza Rumzaun Ale Khan be included in the arrangement under discussion. This latter proposition on the part of his Excellency would require that the sum of ten lacs of rupees should be added to the loan of a crore which his Excellency has already agreed to; and consequently I must suspend my acquiescence in his Excellency's desire, till I be honoured with a communication of his Lordship's commands on the subject of it.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

21st November 1814.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 18th November 1814.)

Some time ago I had the honour of proposing to your Excellency, by command of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that the sum of six lacs of rupees per annum, or 50,000 rupees per mensem, being the interest of the sum of a crore of rupees recently lent by your Excellency to the Honourable Company, should be made applicable to the payment of the several pensions and provisions enjoyed from your Excellency's bounty by your relations and other subjects of your Government, under the express or implied guarantee of the Honourable Company's Government; and to this proposition on my part, your Excellency was pleased to express your ready and cheerful assent.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

I now submit to your Excellency a statement of the several provisions which appeared to be in your Excellency's contemplation, as well as in mine, at the time of our conference on this subject; and I suggest that the statement submitted be compared by your Excellency's officers with the receipts of the persons described, and in the case of its appearing to be correct that your Excellency's seal or sign manual be annexed to it, and that it be returned to my office for record.

I further suggest to your Excellency, that the arrears of the several pensions in question, up to the 1st of Zeehijj 1229 Hijjuree (or 14th November 1814), be discharged from your Excellency's treasury, and that the payment from the last-mentioned date be made from this treasury monthly. The balance of six lacs of rupees (namely, the sum of Rupees 3,888-10 annas) shall be paid into your Excellency's treasury by half-yearly instalments from the Resident's treasury at Lucknow.

A true Copy:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident at Lucknow.

LIST

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

LIST of STIPENDS payable by His Excellency the Vizier.

	Monthly.			Yearly.		
	Rupees.	A.	R.	Rupees.	A.	R.
Mirza Soolimān Shekoh Behauder..... Rupees	6,000	0	0	72,000	0	0
Mirza Shūhamut Alec Khan Behauder	2,800	0	0	33,600	0	0
Mirza Mendoo Sahib	1,647	0	0	19,764	0	0
Shums-ood-Dowlah Behauder (excluding fractions)...	16,666	10	6	2,00,000	0	0
Mirza Cāsem Alee Khan, according to the recent adjustment in the terms of Lord Teignmouth's letter	3,399	12	3	40,797	3	0
Akbur Alee Khan and Asghur Alee Khan.....	2,109	6	0	25,312	8	0
Families of Mirza Alee Khan and Salar Jung.....	6,978	15	9	83,747	13	0
Dependants of the late Begum Shums-oon-Nissa.....	4,000	0	0	48,000	0	0
Hoosein Alee Khan (son of the late Hyder Beg Khan)	2,000	0	0	24,000	0	0
Teyubba Begum and her Relations	3,299	2	6	39,589	14	0
Dependants of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan	775	0	0	9,300	0	0
Rupees	49,675	15	0	5,96,111	6	0
Balance	324	1	0	3,888	10	0
Total	50,000	0	0	6,00,000	0	0

A true copy :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 19th November 1814.)

I have received your letter of this date, with the enclosed statement of pensions proposed to be paid from the interest of my loan to the Honourable Company, requesting that the statement should be compared by my officers with their accounts, and should be returned to you with my signature or seal.

As it is my intention to pay Teyubba Begum, and the fourteen persons of that family connected with her, from my own treasury directly, as heretofore, I have withdrawn that provision from the statement, and have prepared another statement under my seal, which I transmit to you.

It is further my desire, that the payment of the several pensions by the Honourable Company should commence from the day on which the money was sent to your treasury.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION of SIX LACS of RUPEES, being the Interest of a Crore of Rupees given as a Loan to the Honourable Company's Government on the 14th Zecaud 1229—(29th October 1814.)

Bengal Political Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

	Monthly.			Yearly.		
	Rupees.	A.	R.	Rupees.	A.	R.
Mirza Soolimān Shekoh Behauder	6,000	0	0	72,000	0	0
Mirza Shuhāmūt Alee Khan Behauder	2,800	0	0	33,600	0	0
Mirza Mendoo Sahib	1,647	0	0	19,764	0	0
Shums-ood-Dowlah Behauder (excluding fractions)...	16,666	10	6	2,00,000	0	0
Mirza Cāsem Alee Khan, according to the recent adjustment in the terms of Lord Teignmouth's letter	3,399	12	3	40,797	3	0
Akbur Alee Khan and Asghur Alee Khan	2,109	6	0	25,312	8	0
Families of Mirza Alee Khan and Salar Jung	6,978	15	9	83,747	13	0
Dependants of the late Begum Shums-oon-Nissa ...	4,000	0	0	48,000	0	0
Hoosein Alee Khan (son of the late Hyder Beg Khan)	2,000	0	0	24,000	0	0
Dependants of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan	775	0	0	9,300	0	0
Rupees	46,376	12	6	5,56,521	8	0
Balance.....	3,623	3	6	43,478	8	0
Total..... Rupees	50,000	0	0	6,00,000	0	0

True Translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Lumsden, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

The Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan having consented to continue the established allowances which Mirza Cāsem Alee Khan, Ashruf Alee Khan, and Afreen Alee Khan, enjoyed by the liberality of the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, computed not to exceed the following amount, viz. :

To Mirza Cāsem Alee Khan, per month, about.....	Rupees. 4,000
To Mirza Ashruf Alee Khan, for himself and relations	7,000
To Afreen Alee Khan, a jagier, amounting to Rupees 30,000, or annually	40,000

I have promised, and now direct your assistance, if necessary, in procuring the fulfilment of these promises, by the regular payment of the sums specified, and your countenance generally to the parties concerned whilst their conduct entitles them to it.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
28th January 1798.

(Signed) J. SHORE.

Letter from
Sir J. Shore, Bart.
Governor-General.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

1. In a postscript to my letter of the 19th instant, I reported a verbal intimation from his Excellency the Vizier, through his Minister, of his Excellency's acquiescence in my proposal regarding the pension of Teyubba Begum, and also of his Excellency's desire that the stipend of Mirza Rumzan Alee Khan should be included in the list of provisions to be payable hereafter from the Honourable Company's treasury as the interest of his Excellency's loan.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. At the time of my receiving the above intimation from his Excellency's Minister, Agha Meer, I had some reason to consider it as an anticipation, on the part of the Minister, of what he knew to be agreeable to our Government and was therefore anxious to bring about, rather than as a definitive proposal on the Vizier's part, which I was called upon to acquiesce in or decline.

3. His Excellency, however, on a subsequent occasion of our meeting, repeated the proposition himself, by referring to his message through Agha Meer, and inquiring if I approved the arrangement. I answered, that it appeared to me to be unobjectionable; and that on receiving his Excellency's new proposition in the same form with the former, that is, in writing under his Excellency's seal, I should submit it to the Right Honourable the Governor-General, with my own sentiments on the subject, which were favourable to his Excellency's views.

4. The Ministers attended me on the 25th instant, by his Excellency's desire, to consult with me on various matters, and among others on the form of the proposal regarding stipends, which his Excellency had commanded them to draw out with my advice. I dictated, on that occasion, to Rajah Dya-Krishen a form which seemed to me to be appropriate; and yesterday I had the honour of receiving from the Vizier a letter and statement under his seal, the former corresponding very nearly with the draft which I had dictated to Dya-Krishen.

5. Translations of both those documents are transmitted for his Lordship's perusal, and they appear to me to be conclusive on the subject of the beneficial arrangement which I was instructed to negotiate with the Vizier. His Lordship's authority for my receiving the balance of the loan from the Vizier, and for the future payment of the pensions described in his Excellency's statement, is all that would seem to be required.

6. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt, on the 22d instant, of your important despatch of the 12th,* and to offer to his Excellency Lord Moira the expression of my cordial thanks for the clear and explicit instructions which his Lordship has issued for my guidance, and to which I shall most implicitly attend. On my receipt of the original papers from the Persian department, I shall seek a conference with his Excellency the Vizier to present them, and to submit for his Excellency's consideration such remarks as the tenor of them may suggest.

7. With a reference to the question of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan's removal from the Vizier's presence and counsels, which is one of those referred to in your despatch, I am happy to be enabled to report to you the actual departure of the Hukeem on the morning of the 20th instant, and his subsequent arrival at Khyrabad.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th November 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 28th November 1814.)

In my letter of the 5th of Zeehijj (19th instant), I transmitted to you a statement of the pensions to be hereafter paid from your treasury, excluding those of Teyubba Begum and her relations. On further consideration, it seems proper that, according to your original suggestions, Teyubba Begum should be included in the list; and it is further my present desire, that the allowance of Rumzaun Alee Khan should be added, making in all, as per the sealed statement enclosed, a sum of six lacs and fifty-one thousand rupees per annum, for which a provision shall be made. I therefore write to desire that the purport of this letter and statement be submitted by you to my respected uncle, the Right Honourable the Governor-General, Lord Moira, and in the case of his Lordship's approval, that the monthly stipends of all the persons named in the statement be issued hereafter from the Honourable Company's treasury, beginning with the first of the present month Zeehijj, 1229 Hijjuree (14th November 1814), and that their receipts be transmitted to me. Let my former sealed statement be returned.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

* This despatch relates to the improvement of the police.

AN ACCOUNT of the Pensions payable from the Interest of One Crore Eight Lacs and Fifty Thousand Rupees, given as a Loan to the Honourable Company's Government at Six per Cent. per Annum, to commence from the 1st of Zeehijj 1229, corresponding with the 14th November 1814.—Interest monthly, Rs. 54,250.—Do. annually, Rs. 6,51,000.

Bengal Political Consultations,
13 Dec. 1814.

PENSIONERS.	Monthly.			Annually.		
	Rupees.	A.	P.	Rupees.	A.	P.
His Royal Highness Mirza Soolimān Shekoh	6,000	0	0	72,000	0	0
The Nawab Shums-ood-Dowlah, with family and dependants, viz.						
His former allowance	14,171	14	0			
Increased ditto	2,494	12	6			
	16,666	10	6	2,00,000	0	0
The dependants of the late Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, fifteen in number	4,000	0	0	48,000	0	0
Mirza Shuhamut Alee Khan.....	2,800	0	0	33,600	0	0
Mirza Mendoo	1,647	0	0	19,761	0	0
The family of the late Mirza Alee Khan and Sular Jung	6,749	13	9			
Deduct from the above, on account of the stipend of Mirza Tuckie's mother, and Moozuffur Alee Khan and Mirza Ismael, &c. and Bunnoo Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, and Furzana Khanam	22	0	0			
	6,727	13	9	80,734	3	0
Mirza Cāsem Alee Khan, viz.—						
His former allowance	2,847	10	6			
Increased ditto.....	551	5	6			
	3,399	0	0	40,788	0	0
Akbur Alee Khan and Asghur Alee Khan	2,109	6	0	25,312	8	0
Teyubba Begum, &c., fourteen persons, viz.						
Allowance.....Rupees	3,299	2	6			
Deduct fees at the treasury ...	33	0	0			
	3,266	2	6	39,193	14	0
Mirza Runizan Alee Khan	4,900	0	0			
Deduct fees at the treasury	49	0	0			
	4,851	0	0	58,212	0	0
Hoosein Alee Khan, son of the late Hyder Beg Khan, forty-two persons	2,000	0	0	24,000	0	0
Dependants of the late Tulseen Alee Khan, nineteen persons.....	775	0	0	9,300	0	0
	54,242	0	9	6,50,904	9	0
Balance.....Rupees	7	13	3	95	7	0
TotalRupees	54,250	0	0	6,51,000	0	0

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
29 Dec. 1814.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 29th December 1814.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches dated the 19th and 29th ultimo, respecting the arrangement for the application of the interest of the loan made by his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Honourable Company to the payment of the stipends which are payable by the Government of his Excellency, under the guarantee of the Honourable Company.

2. I am directed to inform you, that the final arrangement agreed to by the Vizier, and reported in your despatch of the 29th ultimo, is entirely approved by the Right Honourable the Governor-General; and I am accordingly commanded to desire that you will receive from the treasury of his Excellency, the balance of the loan, together with the further sum required, in consequence of the addition of Rumzaun Alee Khan's pension to those previously in contemplation, amounting altogether to the sum of Rupees 58,50,000, and pay to the several stipendiaries of his Excellency's Government the amount of their respective pensions from the 14th of November last, as specified in the statement delivered to you by the Vizier on the 28th ultimo. You will be pleased to grant his Excellency a receipt for the amount above-mentioned, and to report to the Persian Secretary to the Governor-General the date on which that sum shall have been paid into your treasury, when you will receive from Mr. Swinton, for the purpose of being presented to the Vizier, a corresponding acknowledgment of the receipt, under the hand and seal of the Governor-General.

I have, &c.

Camp, Moradabad,
12th December 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing letter from Mr. Secretary Adam to the Resident at Lucknow, dated the 12th instant, together with the copy of the statement from the Nawaub Vizier referred to in it, be transmitted to the financial department for information.

EXTRACT BENGAL SECRET CONSULTATIONS,

The 24th January 1815.

Bengal Secret
Consultations,
24 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of his Excellency the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter addressed this day, under the authority of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, together with a copy of one from his Lordship to his Excellency the Vizier, referred to in that letter.

I have, &c,

Camp, Hurdwar,
26th December 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. Having communicated to the Governor-General the offer of his Excellency the Vizier, as reported in your private letter of the 13th instant,* to raise one or more

* This letter does not appear upon the Consultations.

more battalions of Nujeebs for service during the war, his Lordship has deemed it proper to express his sense of this friendly and liberal offer in a direct address to his Excellency the Vizier, declining, at the same time, to avail himself of his Excellency's offer.

2. His Lordship has taken the same opportunity of conveying to his Excellency his acknowledgments for the zeal and promptitude with which he has complied with the applications made by you for elephants, for the use of the divisions under the command of Major-Generals Marley and Wood.

3. A letter to the effect of the enclosed English draft will accordingly be transmitted to you by the Persian Secretary.

I have, &c.

Camp, Hurdwar,
26th December 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Secret
Consultations,
24 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 26th December 1814.)

I have been informed by Major Baillie of the offer communicated to him by your Excellency, to raise one or more corps of Nujeebs for service with the grenadier companies lately drawn from your Excellency's territories, to be paid from your Excellency's treasury, during the continuance of the war.

I receive this offer as a most gratifying demonstration of your Excellency's attachment to the Honourable Company, which has been so conspicuously shewn in many instances.

Although the urgency of the case is not such as to render it necessary for me to take advantage of your Excellency's liberal offer, I cannot delay the satisfactory discharge of my duty in offering you my most cordial acknowledgments.

I avail myself of this occasion to convey to you my thanks for your Excellency's prompt and liberal compliance with the application made to you, in my name, by the Resident, for the aid of a portion of your Excellency's elephants, for the use of the divisions of the British troops serving against the Gorkahs under the command of Major-Generals Wood and Marley, and for the cordial and friendly zeal which has been manifested by your Excellency in forwarding the views of the British Government in every instance in which there has been occasion to apply for your Excellency's assistance.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter from
Governor-General.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 24th January 1815.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of his Excellency the Vice-President in Council, the enclosed copies of a letter addressed this day, under the authority of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, and of the acknowledgment replied to therein, in reply to the Resident's despatch of the 24th ultimo.

I have, &c.

Camp, Kurnaul,
2d January 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
24 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 24th ultimo, reporting the payment by the Nawaub Vizier of fifty-eight lacs and a-half into the Company's treasury at Lucknow, and to transmit to you for the purpose of

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
24 Jan. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

of being delivered to the Nawaub, the enclosed acknowledgement for that sum, under the seal and signature of his Excellency the Governor-General, together with a copy for your information.

Camp, Kurnaul,
2d January 1815.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Camp, Kurnaul, 2d January 1815.

I do hereby acknowledge that his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier-Mu-ool-malik Refaut-ood-Dowlah Ruffe-ool-Moolk Mirza Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder Khan Behadur Shuhamut Jung, did, on the 24th day of December last, pay into the Honourable Company's treasury at Lucknow the sum of Lucknow Sicca Rupees 58,50,000, which is to be accounted for to his Excellency, or order, in manner following. Interest on the principal, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, from that date to the 30th June 1815, will be paid to his Excellency at the Honourable Company's treasury at Lucknow, or at his option be added to the principal, his Excellency paying or receiving the fraction of 100 Lucknow sicca rupees, so that the amount may be brought to even hundreds; and for the principal alone, or with the interest so added, as the case may be, a promissory note, to be dated the 30th June 1815, will be granted, payable conformably to the conditions of the advertisement published in the Calcutta Gazette of 1st July 1814.

(L. S.) (Signed) MOIRA.

By his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General,

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS,
Secretary to the Governor-General.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Apr. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 11th April 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

You were apprized by my private communication* to Mr. Trant, under date the 16th instant, of the result of my negotiation with the Vizier for further pecuniary aid to the Honourable Company's resources employed in the war against Nepaul. I have now the honour of transmitting to you a duplicate of a letter on this subject, under date the 16th instant, addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
31st March 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. You are aware that, under private instructions† from his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, I have lately taken several opportunities of explaining to his Excellency the Vizier, both directly and through the medium of his Minister, the extraordinary pressure on our finances, occasioned by the unlooked-for protraction of the war against the Government of Nepaul, and by extensive military preparations for the defence of our southern frontier.

2. I have

* This letter does not appear upon the Consultations.

† These instructions are not recorded on the proceedings, but are referred to in the letter from Lord Moira to the Vice-President in Council, dated 22d March 1815. Vide page 728.

2. I have now the satisfaction of reporting to you, that his Excellency the Vizier has this day formally announced to me his intention of proffering to Lord Moira, by a letter to his Lordship's address, the further sum of a crore of rupees as a loan to the Honourable Company, at an interest of six per centum, for such a number of years as his Lordship may be pleased to determine.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Apr. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

3. His Excellency paid a visit to day to the Prince Mirza Soolimān Shekoh, and I had the honour of attending him. His Excellency, his son, and his Minister, were invested with khillats on this occasion, as being the first of their presentation to the Prince since his Excellency's accession to the musnud, and after the conclusion of those ceremonies his Excellency signified his pleasure to hold a conference at the Residency with me. At this conference his Excellency produced to me a draft of a letter to Lord Moira, containing the offer of a crore of rupees. I perused the draft in his presence, and in compliance with his particular desire; and I expressed my entire approbation of the matter and manner of the letter, and my conviction that it could not fail to produce the most lively satisfaction in the mind of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, as demonstrative, in an extraordinary degree, of his Excellency's friendship and regard for his Lordship's person and Government, and for the interests of the Honourable Company. A letter, under his Excellency's seal, in the terms of the draft which he shewed to me, but with some additional expressions, has since been received for transmission to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and shall be dispatched by the mail of this evening to his Lordship's Persian Secretary.

4. The matter of the loan being adjusted, his Excellency proceeded to announce to me his intention of deputing his Minister to wait on the Governor-General at Futtugurh, and congratulate his Lordship and Lady Loudon, in his Excellency's name, on their safe return to this neighbourhood, after so long and fatiguing a tour during a season of war and anxiety. This intention was announced in such a manner as to leave no room for my replying to his Excellency in any other terms than in those of entire approbation, and even to preclude my suggesting the propriety of consulting Lord Moira before the deputation should proceed. His Excellency mentioned to me, further, in a cursory manner, some unimportant matters of request, which he meant to submit to Lord Moira through me, or through the channel of his Minister, and begged my mediation and good offices to obtain the concession of those points. I assured his Excellency of my disposition to promote the accomplishment of his views by every means in my power, and merely requested him to consider the propriety of committing to paper the several requests which he hinted at, and transmitting them under his seal in a direct address to the Governor-General, which might either be forwarded by me or delivered by his Excellency's Minister, as his Excellency might be pleased to determine. His Excellency then took his leave.

5. A paper, containing the requests which the Vizier mentioned to me in the morning, has since been sent to me by his Excellency; and I shall take an early opportunity of submitting a translation of the paper, with my sentiments on the general subject of it, for the Governor-General's consideration. A duplicate, under his Excellency's seal, will, I conclude, be delivered to the Minister, to be by him submitted to his Lordship.

6. I have complied with the Vizier's requisition for a guard of the Honourable Company's troops to accompany the Minister on his journey; and, by his Excellency's particular desire, I have directed my Second Assistant to proceed with the Minister to Futtugurh, and remain with him during his absence from the capital.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
16th March 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Apr. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th instant, communicating an offer, on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, of a further loan of a crore of rupees to the British Government. His Excellency's letter to the Governor General, referred to in your despatch above acknowledged, has also been received.

2. His Lordship has addressed a letter to the Vizier, in reply, in the terms of the enclosed English draft. The letter will be transmitted to you by the Persian Secretary, and you will be pleased to present it to his Excellency with the least practicable delay, and to accompany it with suitable expressions of thankfulness, conceived in the spirit of its contents.

3. You will receive an early communication of the Governor-General's instructions regarding the periods to be fixed for the instalments by which the loan is to be repaid.

4. The Governor-General cannot, however, defer the expression of his high approbation of the ability and address with which you have conducted the negotiation, concluded by the proposition, on the part of the Vizier, announced in your despatch. His Lordship ascribes the successful result of it, in a high degree, to your judicious and zealous efforts to impress on his Excellency's mind the exigency of the case and the sense of his own interests, as identified with those of the Company, which should lead him to afford the aid of his resources in support of the measures of the British Government.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
20th March 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To his Excellency the Vizier. (Written 20th March 1815.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter.* (Recapitulate that received the 18th March.)

The arduous and expensive war in which the Honourable Company is engaged with the Gorkah power, in defence of its rights, interests, and honour, and the necessity, at the same time, imposed on it of providing for the security of its own interests and those of its allies in other quarters, which but for such precautions would have been exposed to devastation from the irruption of predatory powers, had produced a pressure on the Honourable Company's finances, occasioning considerable anxiety to me lest any temporary embarrassment should be experienced.

In this state of things, your Excellency's friendly and most liberal offer of further pecuniary aid, to the extent of a crore of rupees, has been seasonably received.

The sense which I have always entertained of your Excellency's just conception of the identity of interests subsisting between the two States, has been powerfully confirmed by the fresh proof which you have thus afforded.

While your Excellency's offer is to be ascribed primarily to a sense of common interest and a just estimation of the public exigencies, I indulge the persuasion that it has, in some degree, been prompted by the impulse of your personal friendship and regard.

The frank statement of our actual situation which I have given to your Excellency, will enable you to judge of the degree in which the British Government and myself personally must feel the obligation arising from this distinguished mark of your regard, and of your conviction that the interests of the two States are inseparable.

I accept the offer, therefore, with that thankfulness and that sense of your friendship, which, under such circumstances, it cannot but have excited, and I shall

shall instruct the Resident, without delay, to arrange with your Excellency the terms of the loan.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
11 Apr. 1815.

By the valour of the British arms and the support derived from your Excellency's friendship, I look forward to an early and successful termination of the contest with the Gorkahs, whose means of opposition are failing rapidly. In the adjustment of the terms of peace, it is my hope and expectation that an opportunity will be found of proving to your Excellency how justly your sentiments regarding the identity of our interests in the issue of the war were founded.

Letter from
Governor General.

I shall be happy to receive the expression of your Excellency's wishes, which you state it to be your intention to convey to me through Major Baillie. It cannot be necessary for me to profess the gratification which it will afford me to be able to accomplish them to their full extent.

Your Excellency's intended deputation of your Minister to this quarter is highly gratifying to me, and I shall rejoice in the opportunity of manifesting, by every mark of attention to your Minister, the sincere regard, respect, and attachment, which I feel towards your Excellency's person.

A true copy :

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 18th April 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 Apr. 1815.

To John Monckton, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the accompanying transcript of a letter addressed this day, under the authority of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, a copy of which has also been furnished to his Lordship's Secretary, with a view to such further orders being passed as his Excellency may judge necessary.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
23d March 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. In my despatch of the 20th instant, I apprized you that you would receive the instructions of the Governor-General relative to the periods of receipt and repayment of the loan of a crore of rupees, tendered by the Vizier to the Honourable Company and accepted by the Governor-General. I now proceed to communicate to you His Lordship's instructions on those points.

2. It is the wish of the Governor-General that the amount should be paid in two equal instalments, the first between the present date and the month of September next, and the second between the latter period and the 30th April 1816; the interest, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, to commence on the receipt of the cash into the Company's treasury at Lucknow.

3. His Lordship would wish the period of repayment to be fixed at three or four years from the date of 1st May 1816, the period of the receipt of the full amount of one crore, with a reservation to Government to defer the payment of the whole, or of part, should circumstances render it expedient. The interest, of course, to be continued to be paid on the whole, or on such sum remaining due, until the full amount of the principal shall have been discharged.

8 Y

4. You

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 Apr. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

4. You will be pleased to submit these terms to the Vizier, and obtain his Excellency's acquiescence in the arrangement.

5. On the receipt of each instalment, you will be pleased to execute, and present to the Vizier, an acknowledgement specifying the terms, to be replaced by one under the signature and seal of the Governor-General or the Governor-General in Council.

6. You will be informed from the Department of Finance of the respective periods when it will be desirable for Government to receive funds from your treasury, in order to regulate your applications to the Vizier, with reference to the dates fixed for the receipt from his Excellency of the instalments.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
23d March 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing letter from Mr. Secretary Adam, under date the 23d March, and of its enclosure, be transmitted to the Financial Department for consideration and orders.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Apr. 1815.

Letter from
Persian Secretary
to Government.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 25th April 1815.

Ordered, That the following despatches from the Persian Secretary to the Governor-General be here recorded.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council and for record, the documents specified in the annexed list.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
20th March 1815.

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Translation of a Letter from His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, received the 15th February 1815.

Ditto to His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 2d March 1815.)

Ditto from His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 18th March 1815.)

Letter
from the Vizier

From His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 15th February 1815.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's gracious letter declining the acceptance of my offer to send some battalions with the British troops, to be paid from my treasury, as the urgency of the case did not require it, with the other expressions of kindness and favour.

As no separation of interests exists between the two Governments, it was under that feeling that the offer was made. Since the necessity of the case did not require the acceptance of that offer, and as I have heard from Major Baillie, as well as from other quarters, that in consequence of the necessity which has now occurred for raising troops great and heavy expenses are occasioned, I am desirous, from a sense of the intimate union which has been established from of old

old between the two Governments, to contribute something more in the same way as before. But it is not in my power to provide a sum to the considerable amount which I wished, I have therefore determined with myself to afford the further sum of fifty lacs of rupees, and I now trouble your Lordship to request that you will give me notice whenever it may be wanted.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Apr. 1815.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 2d March 1815.)

Letter from
Governor-General.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter. (Recapitulate contents of that received 15th February 1815.)

The sense with which I have uniformly been impressed of your Excellency's friendship and regard ever since your accession to the musnud of Oude, has been confirmed in no common degree by the fresh proof of which your Excellency has now afforded.

Your Excellency's offer is, indeed, dictated not less by a spirit of the most sincere and cordial friendship, than by a just sense of the connection subsisting between the British Government and your Excellency, whose interests must ever be inseparably associated with ours. Nothing but very peculiar considerations could have induced me to hesitate in accepting it.

I have directed Major Baillie to explain to your Excellency, frankly and without reserve, the nature of the circumstances here adverted to. I am confident that your Excellency would take the most lively interest in the accomplishment of the extensive military measures now in progress, had their result been to affect ourselves alone. They have been adopted in order to bring to a successful termination the contest in which we are now engaged to the eastward, as well as to secure the tranquillity and safety of the dominions of the Honourable Company and its allies in another quarter, for the protection of which annual precautions have of late years been required. Without additional provision those districts would be more particularly exposed to hazard, while so large a portion of the British troops continues to be employed in the Goorkah war. This last object must be efficiently applied, and your Excellency will perceive readily that your interests, no less than our own, must be most severely affected, unless the Goorkahs be taught to feel their incapacity to resist our power. These complicated demands arising at the same moment, have produced an extraordinary, though temporary pressure on the finances of the Honourable Company, such as has required to be met by proportionate efforts.

My obligations to your Excellency for your disposition to assist me in a conjuncture which must be an anxious one for me are most sincere, and I beg your Excellency to accept this cordial acknowledgment of them.

A true copy :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 18th March 1815.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's gracious letter, stating that the urgency of the case was not such as to render it necessary for you to avail yourself of my offer to send some battalions with the British troops, to be paid from my treasury, and containing other expressions of kindness and favour. (Vide letter written the 26th December 1814.)

As

Bengal Political
Consultations,
25 Apr. 1815.

Letter
from the Vizier.

As no separation of interests exists between this State and the British Government, under this conviction, every succour and assistance which may be seasonably offered or afforded by me and my Government to the Honourable Company is in every respect fitting and proper; and I regard it as my good fortune to have an opportunity, in such times, of evincing my friendship for your Lordship. Impressed with this sentiment, and having heard from Major Baillie and from other quarters, that in consequence of the new levies of troops, and of the military preparations connected with the war in Nepaul and with other measures in progress, a heavy pressure is experienced on the finances of the Honourable Company, which cannot but occasion some anxiety to your Lordship's mind, it has occurred to me, in the spirit of the intimate union which has from of old subsisted between the two Governments, to devise and contribute something more in the same way as on a former occasion. After maturely considering what my Government was capable of doing, I have determined to afford another crore should it be required; and I accordingly write with the pen of friendship, to say that it is forthcoming when your Lordship shall intimate a wish to receive it.

Your Lordship will be apprized of further particulars, and also of some other necessary matters by Major Baillie, to whom I have fully explained myself. I hope, from your Lordship's kindness, that you will receive with a favourable ear what Major Baillie will represent to you on my part, and that you will lay me under obligations to your friendship.

I was desirous, on hearing of your Lordship's arrival at Futtugurh, to repair thither, for the purpose of enjoying an interview with you, but circumstances have prevented me from carrying my wishes into effect; I propose, therefore, to depute the high in rank and dignity, my Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah Mookhtaur-ool-Moolk Syud Mohummud Khan Behauder Zeighum Jung, who will have the honour to state to your Lordship the several matters on which he has been fully instructed.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,

Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 May 1815.

Letter from
Governor-General.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 9th May 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

1. The heavy pressure of the war with Nepaul, and the other military preparations which I have deemed it to be my duty to adopt, as fully detailed in my despatch to your Honourable Board of the 9th of February, induced me to turn my thoughts to the expediency and practicability of obtaining a further pecuniary aid from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, whose interest in the success of our measures is closely interwoven with that of the British Government, whose attachment to the Honourable Company is undoubted, and whose personal regard for myself, I was disposed to think, would render him desirous of contributing to the alleviation of our financial embarrassments, were he once apprized of them.

2. A private communication* was accordingly made, under my orders, to the Resident at his Excellency's Court, directing him to ascertain, as far as he might be able, the practicability of obtaining a further loan to the extent of a crore of rupees, and to take advantage of any circumstance which might appear to him as affording a prospect of success to open the matter to his Excellency.

3. Your Honourable Board will bear in recollection the offer which his Excellency the Vizier made to me, through the Resident, to raise for the service

* Vide Note on page 722.

service of the war some battalions of Nujeebs to act with the British troops, and to be paid out of his Excellency's Treasury, while the war should continue. An English copy of my letter to the Vizier, declining with expressions of acknowledgment the proffered aid, as not being required in the circumstances of the moment, was transmitted to Fort-William, in a letter from the Secretary in the Political Department, under date the 26th December 1814.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 May 1815.

Letter from
Governor-General.

4. In reply to my letter above referred to, I received one from the Vizier, in which, after adverting to my declining the offer to raise Nujeeb battalions, and to the information which he states that he had received from Major Baillie, and other quarters, of the expense to which the Company was exposed by raising troops, his Excellency concludes by offering a loan of fifty lacs of rupees to the Honourable Company as a proof of his friendship.

5. Neither the amount of this offer, nor the manner in which it was made, appeared to me to be so satisfactory as to make it advisable that I should accept it on the part of the Honourable Company. You will observe, indeed, that it was made only under an imperfect knowledge of the actual extent of our present and prospective difficulties.

6. I determined, therefore, to decline it, and at the same time to authorize Major Baillie to explain more fully to the Vizier the circumstances of pecuniary embarrassment in which we were placed, and thus afford his Excellency an opportunity of manifesting his friendship by an offer more adequate to the occasion.

7. According to my expectation, the Vizier, on being made master of these circumstances, tendered in the most friendly manner the loan of a crore of rupees bearing interest at six per cent. The translation of the letter in which this offer is conveyed, and the previous correspondence not formerly transmitted to Fort-William, were forwarded to the Acting Chief Secretary in a letter from Mr. Swinton under date the 20th instant.

8. His Excellency having expressed a wish that his letter containing the offer of fifty lacs of rupees on loan should be withdrawn, I accordingly directed it to be returned to him through Major Baillie. I have, nevertheless, deemed it necessary that the translation of that letter should be sent for record with the other papers.

9. Major Baillie has, of course, transmitted to the Presidency a copy of his report of his proceedings in this negotiation, the conduct and result of which are highly creditable to that officer's ability and address.

10. The reply which I directed to be returned to Major Baillie, and an English draft of my letter to the Vizier, were transmitted to Fort-William in a letter from the Secretary in the Political Department of the 20th instant, and do not require at the present moment any particular observation.

11. I shall take into my immediate consideration the period for the receipt and repayment of the loan, and shall have the honour of apprizing you hereafter of my determination on those and other points connected with this arrangement.

12. I shall, at a future time, submit to your Honourable Board the tenor of the communications which I may hold with the Minister of his Excellency the Vizier after his arrival at this station, and the nature of his Excellency's proposed request, together with my decision on each.

13. I desire to offer to your Honourable Board my cordial congratulations on the accomplishment of an arrangement so beneficial to the finances of the Honourable Company at a period of great pressure.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
22d March 1815.

(Signed) MOIRA.

Ordered, That the following reply be returned to the foregoing letter from the Governor-General.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
9 May 1815.

To his Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Moira, K. G., Governor-General, &c. &c. &c.

My Lord :

Letter from
Vice-President in
Council.

1. We have had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 22d March, communicating a statement of your Lordship's negotiation with the Nawaub Vizier for obtaining a further pecuniary advance in aid of the exigencies of the public service, and the gratifying information of its conclusion, by an offer on the part of the Vizier of a second loan of a crore of rupees to the Honourable Company, and the acceptance of it by your Lordship.

2. We entertain a high sense of the importance of the arrangement concluded by your Excellency with the Vizier, which is calculated to afford such seasonable and substantial relief. We beg leave to offer to your Lordship our sincere and cordial congratulations on the successful issue of the negotiation.

3. The friendly and liberal spirit in which the offer of the Nawaub Vizier was made is an additional source of gratification. We consider the amicable solicitude which the Nawaub Vizier has manifested on this occasion, and indeed during the whole course of the war, to afford a distinguished proof of his Excellency's just and honourable attachment to the Company, and of his ardent zeal for the interest and prosperity of the British power in India, and a practical demonstration of the beneficial influence of your Lordship's personal intercourse and political transactions with the Vizier.

We have, &c.

Fort-William,
9th May 1815.

(Signed)

N. B. EDMONSTONE,
A. SETON,
G. DOWDESWELL.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 May 1815.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 30th May 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting for your information the enclosed duplicate of my despatch of this date to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
10th May 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

The substance of your letter of the 23d of March last, conveying the instructions of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General relative to the period of receipt and repayment of the loan of a crore of rupees having been submitted to his Excellency the Vizier, I have now the satisfaction of transmitting to you, for his Lordship's information, a translation of a letter from his Excellency, expressive of his cheerful acquiescence in the terms which I was instructed to propose to him.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th May 1815.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From His Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 10th May 1815.)

I have received the translation which you sent to me of a letter from Mr. Adam to your address, dated the 23d March last, expressive of the wishes and sentiments of my respected uncle, the Governor-General, with regard to the loan and repayment of a crore of rupees, &c. &c. (Recapitulate its contents.)

The

The truth of the matter is this : that as I have all along made his Lordship's wishes on this subject the rule of my conduct, so also now, and in future, it is my intention to cultivate his Lordship's pleasure, and to do nothing contrary to his wishes. The money which I have promised to give shall be paid whenever his Lordship thinks proper, and in any manner which he may prescribe. My reliance on the friendship and kindness of the Governor-General is unbounded, and as you know that, on the occasion of the former loan, I considered an acknowledgment under the seal of the Governor-General to be unnecessary, so in the present instance your giving me a receipt for the money, till the arrival of an acknowledgment signed and sealed by the Governor-General, is totally unnecessary, and my taking it would seem to indicate distrust.

His Lordship will send the acknowledgment when he thinks proper.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council,
&c. &c. &c.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, the annexed duplicate of a letter addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
13th May 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. With a reference to the subject of the fourth paragraph of my letter under date the 16th of March last,* I have now the honour of reporting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, that his Excellency the Vizier has this day formally announced to me his intention of deputing his son and heir apparent, the Nawaub Intezaz-ood-Dowlah Omdut-ool-Moolk Mirza Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan Behauder Asud Jung, to visit his Lordship at Futtugurh, and that the Prince, attended by his deputy, the Nawaub Moatumud-ood-Dowlah Behadur, will commence his journey from this place as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made for his departure.

2. The route by which the deputation will proceed has not yet been finally determined on ; but as I propose to recommend to his Excellency their crossing the Ganges at Nanamow, I take the liberty of suggesting for consideration, that the civil officers of the Government in the districts of Cawnpore and Futtugurh be instructed to make the necessary preparations for the supply of the party with provisions at the different stages on the road, and for the honourable reception of the Prince on his approach to their respective districts. I calculate the number of the party, including troops, servants, and followers, to be ten thousand at the least, and the cattle of all descriptions to be nearly half that number.

3. I stated to you, in my despatch above noticed, my having received from his Excellency the Vizier a paper containing some requests, which his Excellency proposed to submit to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, through the medium of his Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah. This paper has since formed the subject of discussion between his Excellency and me ; and from some remarks that were recently made by his Excellency, as well as from the tenor of his letter, a translation of which was conveyed to you by my despatch of the 10th instant, I have strong grounds to infer that a considerable alteration has been made in the draft of the paper of requests originally prepared by his Excellency, and that two or three of the articles are intended by his Excellency to be withdrawn. He promised this morning to furnish me with an amended copy.

* Vide page 725.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 May 1815.

Letter
from the Vizier.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
30 May 1815.

copy of the draft in the course of a few days, and I shall lose no time in preparing and transmitting a translation of it, with such remarks as its tenor may suggest, for his Excellency the Governor-General's consideration.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
13th May 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
6 June 1815.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 6th June 1815.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable Vice-President in Council and for record, the enclosed copy of a letter addressed this day, by command of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow, in reply to his letter of the 10th instant.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
17th May 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Major J. Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10th instant, enclosing the translation of a letter addressed to you by his Excellency the Vizier, signifying his Excellency's acquiescence in the proposed periods for the receipt and repayment of the second loan of a crore of rupees.

2. The terms of his Excellency's letter appear to be in the highest degree friendly, and are extremely gratifying to the Governor-General. It will be proper, however, on the receipt into your treasury of the several payments on account of the loan, to tender to his Excellency your receipt for the amount in the manner already prescribed.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
17th May 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 June 1815.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,
The 20th June 1815.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Esq., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, a duplicate of my despatch of this date, addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
29th May 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir :

1. In continuation of the subject of my letter under date the 13th instant, I have now the honour of transmitting to you, for the information of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, a copy and translation of a letter received from his Excellency the Vizier, announcing the day of the departure of his Excellency's son and heir-apparent, attended by the Ministers of his

his Government, to wait on the Governor-General at Futtugurh, and conveying, for my perusal and approbation, a letter which his Excellency has addressed to Lord Moira on the subject of his deputation, as also a paper of requests referred to in that letter and authenticated by his Excellency's seal.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 June 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

2. Of the latter document, in pursuance of my intention formerly announced to you, I now transmit a translation; and proceed to submit such remarks on it as appear to be calculated to aid the deliberation of the Right Honourable the Governor-General on the purport of the several requests which the Vizier has submitted to his Lordship.

1st. Nuseer-ood-Dowlah and } 3. The conduct of Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, and of several of
others. } his younger brothers, has certainly been frequently such as to give cause of displeasure to the Vizier; but it is chiefly, in my judgment, to be ascribed to the want of that mutual affection which is rarely observed among brothers, when each has a separate mother, and no common interest can exist. Nuseer-ood-Dowlah has himself several children by different mothers, among whom a natural jealousy subsists, and an appeal on the part of his eldest son to the Vizier against the alleged injustice of the father had occasioned the latter's sullen retirement from Court, and his refusal to receive his allowance, without the power, uncontrolled by the Vizier, of distributing it as he thought proper among his children, and retaining the provision of his son, which was distinctly allotted to him by his grandfather. This ground of disagreement, however, has been recently obviated, I understand, by a concession on the part of Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, who despairing of my interference in his behalf, has submitted to the will of the Vizier and received the arrears of his allowance. Yet it is probable that other grounds of displeasure against Nuseer-ood-Dowlah and some others of the family may exist, or may hereafter arise, in the mind of his Excellency the Vizier; and with a reference to all such occurrences, it would seem to be his Excellency's wish that some additional means be devised by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, more efficient than even the declaration of non-interference by our Government, already conveyed to his Excellency, with a view to ensure the submission of his numerous brothers and relations.

2d. Shums-ood-Dowlah. 4. The purport of this article seems to proceed on a vague suspicion, for which I see no ground, of Shums-ood-Dowlah's being engaged in intrigues for the subversion of his Excellency's Government. The great jealousy and enmity which had long subsisted between the Vizier and his Excellency's brother, Shums-ood-Dowlah, during the lifetime of their father, have not suffered any diminution by the removal of Shums-ood-Dowlah to Benares, and will probably last during their lives; and although I see no just ground for apprehension in the mind of his Excellency the Vizier with regard to the proceedings of his brother, I should deem it to be just and expedient to answer this article of his Excellency's requests, by an unqualified assurance of protection and support to his Excellency's person and Government against all evil designs or intrigues, by whomsoever harboured or undertaken.

d. The inheritance of the Bhow } 5. His Excellency's right of inheritance to the personal
gum. } property of the Begum could certainly not be maintained on the ground of the Mussulman law, though supported by the uniform practice of Indian princes and rulers.

6. The proceedings of our Government have recognized his Excellency's title to the residue of her Highness's personal property, after securing the provisions of her will in behalf of her relations and dependants; and the question which is now to be decided, is that of the justice and expedience of limiting the security for those provisions to the faith of his Excellency's Government, by transferring to him, or permitting him to take possession of, the whole of her Highness's property at her death, instead of retaining a considerable portion of it in the Honourable Company's funds, to ensure the regular payment of those provisions in perpetuity, as was clearly the intention of the arrangement which I concluded with the Begum in the month of August 1813, and which was subsequently ratified by the Governor-General.

Bengal Political
Consultations
20 June 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

7. The Vizier's reference, on this occasion, to the case of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, which was decided in favour of his Excellency's father to the injury of the dependants of Tuhseen, is, I fear, an indication of the consequence which would result to the dependants of the Begum from an acquiescence in his Excellency's wish; but be this conjecture as it may, the two cases are so different in their nature, as to preclude the validity of an argument to be drawn from our concession of the one, in favour of any title in the Vizier to expect our acquiescence in the other.

4th. The Vizier's desire to obtain the district of Khyreegurh, and some others, as a gift from the Governor-General.

8. I have already submitted my sentiments on this subject at considerable length in a private letter* to Mr. Ricketts, and they are favourable to his Excellency the Vizier, whose liberal aid to our finances appears to me to entitle him to the most favourable consideration of our Government, in all cases where its own rights or interests alone, and not those of third parties, are concerned.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th May 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 25th of May 1815.)

The 16th of the present month of Jemadee-oos-Sanee (27th May) being finally fixed for the departure of my beloved son, the light of my eyes, Imteaz-ood-Dowlah Omdut-ool-Moolk Mirza Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan Behadur Asud-Jung, on a deputation to congratulate my respected uncle, the Right Honourable the Governor-General, on his return with health and success from his tour to the Upper Provinces, and having resolved that Moatumud-ood-Dowlah Mookhtaur-ool-Moolk Seyyud Mohummud Khan Behadur, Zeighum Jung, and Rajah Dya-Krishen Behadur, shall accompany my son on this deputation, they will commence their journey, please God, on the day appointed towards Futtugurh. I therefore transmit for your perusal a letter which I have addressed on this occasion to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, containing a paper of requests in which three articles have been omitted, with a view to his Lordship's satisfaction. From your friendship and attachment, I expect that after perusing the letter and its enclosure with attention, you will state your opinion on the purport of them, and return them to me for transmission by the hands of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah.

Requests contained in a Letter from His Excellency the Vizier to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, received the 25th of May 1815.

First. Notwithstanding all my kindness and liberality, actual and intended, to Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, his conduct is still such as your Lordship will doubtless have learned from the reports of my friend Major Baillie, and I have instructed Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to explain to your Lordship more fully the proceedings of my said brother and others. Let some method be determined respecting them, which may ensure their submission and obedience and prevent their displeasing me in future.

Second. Shums-ood-Dowlah is employed at Benares in carrying on devices and intrigues. My Minister will detail his proceedings to your Lordship, with a view of obtaining such assurances as may give confidence and satisfaction to my mind.

Third. As I am the heir of the property in money and goods of my grandmother, the Bhow Begum, and as I have already agreed to provide for her dependants, I trust to your Lordship's justice and kindness for the security of my rights and interests in that quarter, and for such information regarding the views of the British Government as may lead to an adjustment of this affair similar to that which took place regarding the late Tuhseen Alee Khan.

Fourth.

* This letter does not appear upon the Consultations.

Fourth. As children naturally look up to their parents for all sorts of benefit and advantage, I rely on the accomplishment of my wish with regard to the district of Khyreegurh, either as a compensation for the interest of the loan or otherwise ; and if, in addition to Khyreegurh, some part of the Goorkah country that may be conquered and is contiguous to my dominions should be conceded to me by your Lordship, it would be considered as a gratifying mark of your paternal affection and regard. My Minister will submit my wishes on this subject to your Lordship in person.

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
20 June 1815.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 18th July 1815.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

To J. Monckton, Esq, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. The Honourable the President in Council is apprized by the communications of the Resident at Lucknow of his Excellency the Vizier having intimated his intention to depute his son, the Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan, attended by the Minister Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and the Dewan Rajah Dya-Krishen, for the purpose of congratulating the Governor-General on the completion of his Lordship's tour of the British Provinces. The Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder accordingly arrived at this station on the 15th instant, attended by the Minister and the Dewan ; and having been received and entertained during his residence here with every mark of distinction suitable to his rank and to the intimate relations subsisting between the British Government and the State of Oude, commenced his march back to Lucknow this morning.

2. The Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, was, as the Vice-President in Council is already apprized, charged with a letter from the Vizier to the Governor-General, enclosing a paper of requests on the part of his Excellency, and was commissioned to obtain the answers of the Governor-General.

3. A translation of his Excellency's letter and of the paper of requests is enclosed, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, together with English copies of the Governor-General's letter in reply, and of his Lordship's answers to the Vizier's requests.

4. The principle on which the answers are framed is explained in the letter to the Resident at Lucknow of this day's date, a copy of which is enclosed for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, who will perceive in the tenor of those answers a strict attention to those sentiments in which his Lordship had the satisfaction of believing his colleagues concurred with him on former discussions.

5. The Governor-General deemed it proper to avail himself of the occasion of his conference with the Minister on the 20th instant, to express the sense cherished by the British Government of the extraordinary liberality of his Excellency, in the pecuniary aid which he afforded to the Government during the late season of actual and apprehended exigency, and to satisfy his Excellency's mind by an assurance that the British Government did not entertain the intention of again trespassing on the liberality of his Excellency's disposition.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
24th June 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 16th June 1815.)

After compliments :

After expressing my earnest desire for the happiness of a personal meeting, which is the first wish of my heart, I proceed to observe, that the relations of close and intimate friendship and union between the two States, such as they have subsisted from former times, are so conspicuous and well known to all the world, that it would be superfluous to enlarge on the subject. From the day of my ascending the musnud of my hereditary dominions, I have ever been, and continue to be, entirely occupied with the desire to cultivate our ancient friendship and union, and to promote the satisfaction of the rulers of the British Government, and especially to seek the gratification of your Lordship, for whose kindness, favours, and gracious disposition towards me, I am impressed with a sense of the highest obligation and gratitude. It is my wish that the friendship and cordiality existing between the two Governments may continue daily to increase, sentiments which have, no doubt, been communicated to your Lordship by Major Baillie. Under the influence of those sentiments, I have resolved to depute my dear son, the light of my eyes, Imteaz-ood-Dowlah Omdut-ool-Moolk Mirza Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan, to congratulate your Lordship on your return from your tour in health and with triumph. He will be accompanied by Moatumud-ood-Dowlah Mookhtaur-ool-Moolk Syyud Mohummud Khan and Rajah Dya-Krishen, both of whom are the true and faithful servants of this State. The 16th Jemadee-oos-Sanee (27th May) has accordingly been fixed for the departure of my dear son, on which day the party will receive the leave with marks of peculiar honour and distinction, and by the blessing of God commence their journey, travelling by regular stages until they shall reach Futtugurh and have the honour of paying their respects to your Lordship. I am satisfied that they will experience every mark of kindness and attention from your Lordship, and that their reception will be suitable to their relative rank, dignity, and station; for this will redound to your Lordship's reputation, and will strengthen and cement the foundations of our ancient friendship and union. It will also be highly gratifying to me, and will lay me under obligations to your Lordship.

Some points which I deem it necessary to bring before your Lordship are stated in the enclosed paper, to which I request your Lordship's attention, and I trust in your kindness and favour to receive a satisfactory answer to them.

Further, may the days of your prosperity and happiness be perpetual.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Enclosure.

Translation of a Paper of Requests enclosed in the foregoing Letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, dated 14th Jemadee-oos-Sanee (25th May).

First.—Notwithstanding all my kindness and liberality, actual and intended, to Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, his conduct is still such as your Lordship will doubtless have learnt from the reports of my friend Major Baillie, and I have instructed Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to explain to your Lordship more fully the proceedings of my said brother and others. Let some method be determined respecting them, which may ensure their submission and obedience and prevent their displeasing me in future.

Secondly.—Shums-ood-Dowlah is employed at Benares in carrying on devices and intrigues. My Minister will detail his proceedings to your Lordship, with the view of obtaining such assurances as may give confidence and satisfaction to my mind.

Thirdly.—As I am the heir of the property in money and goods of my grandmother the Bhow Begum, and as I have already agreed to provide for her dependants, I trust to your Lordship's justice and kindness for the security of my rights and interests in that quarter, and for such information regarding the views of the British Government as may lead to an adjustment of this affair, similar to that which took place regarding the late Tuhseen Alee Khan.

Fourthly.

Fourthly.—As children naturally look up to their parents for all sorts of benefit and advantage, I rely on the accomplishment of my wish with regard to the district of Khyreegurh, either as a compensation for the interest of the loan or otherwise; and if, in addition to Khyreegurh, some parts of the Goorkah country that may be conquered and is contiguous to my dominions should be conceded to me by your Lordship, it would be considered as a gratifying mark of your paternal affection and regard.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

My Minister will submit my wishes on this subject to your Lordship in person.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEORGE SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

To his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 22d June 1815.)

Letter from
Governor-General.

I have been highly gratified by the receipt of your Excellency's letter, which has been delivered to me by the Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah. (Recapitulate contents of letters received 16th June.)

I participate in the fullest manner in the sentiments expressed in your Excellency's letter. To renew the assurances of my most cordial disposition, to co-operate with you in cementing the foundations of the intimate friendship and alliance which have always subsisted between the two States, would be an unnecessary repetition of those sentiments which I have so often expressed, and which it has been the object of all my measures connected with the affairs of Oude to manifest to your Excellency and to the world, both by words and deeds. My anxious endeavours to improve the prosperity of your Government, to augment your reputation, and to promote your personal comfort and satisfaction, are amply rewarded by the gratification which I derive from the cordial expressions of your Excellency's friendship and regard, and by my knowledge of the benefits already derived from the progress of those important measures, which at the recommendation of the British Government you have been pleased to adopt. A firm and resolute perseverance in those objects cannot fail to prove the source of happiness to your subjects, and of conscious satisfaction as well as real advantage to yourself.

Had any proof been wanting of your Excellency's regard, it has been supplied in the most gratifying shape, by the deputation of your son, attended by your Ministers, to congratulate me on my return from my tour through the Upper Provinces of Hindostan. I feel all the value of the compliment, and I desire to offer to your Excellency my most sincere acknowledgments for this last and most acceptable pledge of your personal friendship.

I have endeavoured to manifest my sense of this proof of your Excellency's attachment by the most honourable reception of your Excellency's son. I have also, in the manner of my reception of the Minister and the Dewan, been solicitous to mark my respect for persons justly possessing your Excellency's confidence. As your Excellency's son and the Ministers are now about to return to Lucknow, I propose to give them their leave with every mark of distinction and honour.

Your Minister has made the necessary communications to me on the subject of the paper enclosed in your letter, and I have discussed with him at a private audience the several subjects which it embraces.

The enclosed paper, under my seal and signature, contains my answers to your Excellency's requests, the tenor of which will, I trust, be entirely satisfactory on the particular points to which it refers, and will form a fresh proof of my sincere desire to consult your wishes to the fullest extent.

For further particulars I refer your Excellency to the communications of the minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah.

A true copy :

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

Enclosure.

The Vizier's Propositions.

First. Notwithstanding all my kindness and liberality, actual and intended, to Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, his conduct is still such as his Lordship will doubtless have learnt from the reports of my friend Major Baillie, and I have instructed Moatumud-ood-Dowlah to explain to your Lordship more fully the proceedings of my said brother and others. Let some method be determined respecting them, which may ensure their submission and obedience, and prevent their displeasing me in future.

Second. Shums-ood-Dowlah is employed at Benares in carrying on devices and intrigues. My Minister will detail his proceedings to your Lordship, with a view of obtaining such assurances as may give confidence and satisfaction to my mind.

Third. As I am the heir of the property in money and goods of my grandmother the Bhow Begum, and as I have agreed to provide for her dependants, I trust to your Lordship's justice and kindness for the security of my rights and interest in that quarter, and for such information regarding the views of the British Government as may lead to an adjustment of this affair, similar to that which took place regarding the late Tuhseen Alee Khan.

The Governor-General's Answers.

The insubordinate and disrespectful conduct of his Excellency the Vizier's brothers cannot fail to excite my regret and displeasure: Such conduct must always meet with my decided reprobation. On a former occasion I declared to his Excellency, that I considered him to possess complete authority over his brothers; and I take this opportunity of repeating the assurance, that the British Government regards his Excellency as having an inherent plenitude of power in that respect. Any proportioned and wholesome severity used by his Excellency, when the conduct of any of his brothers or relations has been refractory or contumacious, can never be the subject of remark from the British Government. In no case could that Government or its representative at his Excellency's Court make an observation relative to such a subject; unless where unfounded or exaggerated representations had been used to excite his Excellency's displeasure against one of his family, in which event his Excellency would expect the Resident to enable him to detect the fraud practised on him.

Any intrigues or any disrespectful proceedings on the part of Shums-ood-Dowlah relative to his Excellency, will not only receive no countenance from the British Government, but will be checked and reprehended in the most marked and decided manner. On this point his Excellency may feel the most perfect security.

The engagement made between the British Government and her Highness the Bhow Begum, during the reign of the late Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan, and before my accession to this Government, will be in the recollection of his Excellency. That engagement was ratified and confirmed by me, both because the faith of the Government was already virtually pledged, and because I considered it to combine with the fulfilment of our obligations to the Begum the most entire regard for the rights of the sovereignty of Oude. Our good faith requires that the engagement so incurred shall be fulfilled; but his Excellency may rest assured, that the surplus of her Highness's wealth, after providing the requisite funds for the discharge of her bequests, according to the agreement, shall be faithfully paid into his Excellency's treasury.

Fourth.

It

It is superfluous to report, that no interference on the part of the British Government will take place with regard to her Highness' jagiers, which will, of course, on her demise, revert to the State of Oude.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

Enclosure.

Fourth. As children naturally look up to their parents for all sorts of benefit and advantage, I rely on the accomplishment of my wish with regard to the district of Khyreegurh, either as a compensation for the interest of the loan or otherwise; and if, in addition to Khyreegurh, some parts of the Goorkbah country that may be conquered and is contiguous to my dominions should be conceded to me by your Lordship, it would be, considered as a gratifying mark of your paternal affection and regard. My Minister will submit my wishes on this subject to your Lordship in person.

Dated 22d June 1815.

A true copy:

(Signed)

GEO. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary.

To Major Baillie, Resident at Lucknow.

Sir:

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. Your despatch of the 29th May was duly received and submitted to the Governor-General, but a reply was necessarily suspended until the articles of request on the part of his Excellency the Vizier should be discussed with the Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and his Lordship's answers regularly drawn up and delivered to the Minister.

2. The Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan having arrived at this station on the 15th instant, attended by the Minister Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and the Dewan, Rajah Dya Krishen, was publicly received by the Governor-General at breakfast on the following morning; and after his Highness took his leave, the Minister, at a private audience of the Governor-General, delivered to his Lordship a letter from the Vizier, enclosing the paper of which a translation accompanied your despatch now acknowledged.

3. On the 20th instant the Governor-General again received the Minister in private, when the subject of the requests was discussed, and the tenor of the answers proposed to be returned was communicated to the Minister.

4. On the 23d instant, on which day the Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder took leave of the Governor-General, his Lordship delivered to the Minister a letter to his Excellency the Vizier, enclosing a paper, under his signature and seal, containing the answers to his Excellency's requests drawn out in regular form. On the same day his Lordship conferred khillats on the Minister and Dewan and gave them their dismissal.

5. Copies in English and Persian of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, and the answers to his Excellency's requests, are herewith transmitted; and I am directed to communicate to you the following observations, in explanation of the principles on which those answers have been framed.

Relative to the contumacy of Nuseer-ood-Dowlah and the other brothers and relations, his Lordship does not distinctly discern any means, on his part, of strengthening his Excellency's authority in that respect. An unqualified assurance that the British Government would in no possible case intercede in behalf of the relations of the Vizier might be interpreted into a sanction for any measures

6. The Governor-General having already declared to the Vizier, in his Lordship's answer to his Excellency's former papers, that he considered his Excellency to be possessed of uncontrolled authority over his brothers and

Bengal Political
Consultations,
18 July 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

measures of hardship, severity, or oppression, into which the Vizier might be hurried, by his own caprice, or the insidious and unfounded representations of unprincipled advisers. To remain entirely neutral in such cases would not become the British Government, which must partake largely in the public opinion of the discredit of such a procedure as is supposed. While, therefore, the Governor-General could not hesitate in repeating his recognition of the plenitude of his Excellency's authority over his brothers and the other members of his family, his Lordship has reserved the right of interposing to correct or mitigate any proceeding founded on false or exaggerated statements. The fitness of such interposition must be determined by the circumstances of each particular case, and your knowledge of his Lordship's sentiments and principles of action with reference to the Government of Oude will enable you to regulate your conduct.

2d. Relative to the alleged conduct of Shums-ood-Dowlah. } 7. The Governor-General has no reason to suppose that these charges against Shums-ood-Dowlah, originate in any other cause than the Vizier's natural jealousy and suspicion of his brother. There could be no hesitation, however, on his Lordship's part, in conveying the most positive assurances to his Excellency, that such proceedings on the part of Shums-ood-Dowlah would not only receive no countenance from the British Government but be severely reprobated,

3d. Expressing his Excellency's desire to be put in possession of the wealth of the Bhow Begum at her demise. } 8. The tenor of the engagement with the Bhow Begum, imposes on the British Government the obligation of securing to her relations and dependants the bequests allotted to them by her Highness's testamentary disposition of her property, which can only be effectually secured by vesting in the hands of the Honourable Company a fund adequate to the purpose. It is certain, too, that the Begum considered the arrangement to be entirely independent of the Vizier's Government, and the British Government is bound to act on that principle. Admitting the Vizier's present disposition to fulfil the objects of her Highness's will, it is obvious that occasions might, and judging from past experience, there is no doubt that they would frequently arise, for discussion and altercation, relative to the stipends, which would disturb the harmony between the two Governments, and the objects happily secured by the terms of the first loan would thus be defeated by the introduction of new causes of altercation and dispute.

9. A compliance with the Vizier's wishes in this instance was therefore inadmissible; and his Lordship has declared it in the terms of the answer to the third article, adding the most satisfactory assurances relative to her Highness's surplus wealth and the reversion of the jagiers.

4th. Requesting that Kyree-gurh, and a portion of the territories that may be conquered from the Goorkahs, may be granted to his Excellency. } 10. The Governor-General entertains the most cordial disposition to comply with this request, and will be prepared to carry it into effect, as soon as the conclusion of peace with the Goorkahs shall render it practicable and expedient.

At that time, also, the footing on which the grant shall be made will be considered with a reference to the extent and value of the territory: in the meanwhile, his Lordship hopes that the terms of the answer to this article will prove satisfactory to his Excellency the Vizier.

11. You will observe that the Governor-General has availed himself of this occasion of addressing the Vizier, to advert to the progress of the measure of reform in the revenue administration of Oude, and other arrangements for the improvement of the country, adopted at the instance of the British Government. His Lordship hopes that this will testify the importance attached by the British Government to the success of those arrangements, and afford you, if necessary, an opportunity of drawing his Excellency's attention to the subject. The Minister has been apprized of the contents of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier.

12. The Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder, attended by the Minister and Dewan, commenced his march this morning on his return to Lucknow.

13. The Governor-General has endeavoured, by his reception of the Nawaub and the Ministers and by the arrangements for their accommodation on their march, to manifest his friendship and regard for the Vizier and his son, and his consideration for the Minister.

I have, &c.

Futtugurh,
24th June 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

CORRESPONDENCE
BETWEEN THE
COURT OF DIRECTORS AND THE GOVERNMENT
OF BENGAL
ON THE
SUBJECTS OF THE FOREGOING PAPERS.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS, AT THE REQUEST OF
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL BAILLIE.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 27th September 1808.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
27 Sept. 1808.

Par. 245. On the proceedings noted in the margin * is recorded another correspondence which took place between the Resident at Lucknow and the Commanding-Officer in the Field, and other officers, relating to operations to be undertaken at the desire of the Vizier against a refractory Zemindar in his Excellency's dominions. That correspondence was originally recorded in the Judicial Department, but requiring instructions to the Resident at Lucknow was transferred to this. The former part of this correspondence was brought under your Honourable Court's consideration in the 129th and following paragraphs of our letter of the 29th of March.

246. It appears from the circumstances stated in a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory to the Resident, dated the 4th April (included in that correspondence), to be highly probable that the origin of the dispute was at least as much to be ascribed to the misconduct and oppressions of the Vizier's Aumil, as to a refractory disposition on the part of the Zemindar; and we were consequently extremely anxious to avoid having recourse to any coercive measure against the latter, which might be considered as an encouragement to injustice and oppression. It is, indeed, to be feared, that the British troops are too often employed on such unjust occasions; but as we are bound by treaty to assist the Vizier in cases of resistance to his authority, there appears to be no complete remedy, but the very distant and improbable one of a reform in the vicious system of his Excellency's administration. At the same time, it certainly is desirable that coercive measures should be suspended, in all possible cases, by a system of proceeding which should bring to light any acts of injustice on the part of his Excellency's public officers, whose authority the British arms are required to support, so as to subject the perpetrators to punishment or to the legitimate restraints of the local government. In the present case, the Resident was desired to urge to the Vizier the propriety of ascertaining the circumstances stated by Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, and to represent to his Excellency the impropriety of employing the English troops in cases, the justice of which was questionable, till by a previous inquiry the merits of the case should be ascertained. He was desired also to suggest the propriety of a person being deputed by

* Consultations, 18th April.

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from Bengal,
27 Sept. 1809.

by the Vizier to enquire into the circumstance represented by Colonel Gregory, in concert with another to be deputed by the Resident himself, provided he should deem such a measure advisable with reference to local circumstances.

247. Colonel Gregory having stated the negligence of the Vizier's officers in securing supplies for his detachment, Captain Baillie was directed to make particular enquiries into this circumstance, and to call on the Vizier to issue positive orders for the provision of the requisite supplies. These instructions are recorded on the proceedings noted in the margin.*

248. Captain Baillie, in his reply which is recorded on the annexed date,† states his conviction, notwithstanding the vices and abuses of the Vizier's Government, that the measures in the case of the Zemindar in question were founded in justice and expediency, and such as he would himself have recommended. He further stated, that it was his practice, in all cases, to make a previous inquiry into the justice of the cause in which he was called on to employ the British troops, as, with reference to the actual state of the Vizier's Government, the employment of those troops in support of his Excellency's Aumils, without minute investigation, had since his appointment to the Residency invariably been the subject of his anxiety and concern. With regard to the failure in the supplies of provisions, he reported that inquiries would be made; but he added, that he was compelled to believe that the indisposition which appeared among the Vizier's officers to aid and assist the British troops, was to be ascribed to the pernicious effect of his Excellency's own conduct and example, which he had in vain endeavoured to correct by every conciliatory expedient.

249. We are enabled to state, that the dispute with the Zemindar above mentioned has been since amicably settled.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
13 Jan. 1809.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated 13th January 1809.

Par. 86. The letters recorded on the dates noted in the margin‡ contain a report of the proceedings of a detachment employed in the district of Kewae, in the territories of the Nawaub Vizier, against some refractory Zemindars. Your Honourable Court will observe, that in consequence of the severe example made of the garrison of one of the forts in that district, the whole of the remaining ones were abandoned or delivered up without resistance. We are most sensible of the advantage of bringing this species of service to an early conclusion by the effects of intimidation; but we cannot but regret the necessity of such severities, in cases where the degree of guilt on the part of the sufferers is so uncertain and ill-defined, as in the disputes between the Zemindars and the Aumils of the Vizier. It is always with reluctance that the Company's troops are employed on this kind of service, when, from the known defects of the Vizier's Government, it is often highly probable that the disturbance has been occasioned by the oppressions and exactions of the Vizier's officers, as much as by the turbulent and seditious spirit of the Zemindars; and it would certainly be a satisfaction to us to know that the service could be performed without having recourse to measures of such extremity as appear to have been necessary on the occasion in question. We directed the above sentiments to be communicated to Captain Baillie, in reply to his despatch reporting the operations of the detachment; expressing, at the same time, our high sense of the spirit and military skill evinced by Major O'Donnel and the officers under his command. We further stated, that our confidence in the character of Major O'Donnel precluded the admission of the slightest idea, that any thing but conviction of the necessity of the measure would have induced him to adopt it, and that our observations were by no means intended to convey any censure on that respectable officer. The letter to Captain Baillie containing the foregoing instructions is recorded on the date noted in the margin.§

EXTRACT

* Consultations, 18th April.

† Consultations, 16th May.

‡ Consultations, 30th October; and 28th November.

§ Consultations, 28th November.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 9th May 1810.

Political Lett
from Bengal,
9 May 1810.

Para. 149. A portion of the troops stationed in the dominions of his Excellency the Vizier have recently been employed, at the request of his Excellency, in the reduction of several forts belonging to rebellious Aumils.

150. The despatches noted in the margin* contain the correspondence of the Resident with the Vizier and several military officers, regarding the movement of the troops, and exhibit the proceedings of the detachments employed against the several forts, the details of which we consider it unnecessary to introduce into the body of this letter.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *to* BENGAL,

Dated 20th April 1811.

Political Lett
to Bengal,
20 Apr. 1811

Letter from, dated 27th September 1808—(245 to 249). Referring to a correspondence relative to the operations to be undertaken, at the desire of the Vizier, against a refractory Zemindar.

79. In the 148th paragraph of our last-mentioned despatch,† we expressed our approbation of your determination, at the request of the Nawaub Vizier, and agreeably to the third article of the Treaty of 1801, for furnishing his Excellency with a battering-train for effecting the capture of some for-

tresses in the districts of Behar and Dalmow, the possessions of which appeared to have resisted the authority of his Excellency's Aumils and to have withheld the payment of the revenues. As, from the correspondence referred to in the paragraph before us, it appeared to you to be highly probable that the origin of the dispute was at least as much to be ascribed to the misconduct and oppression of the Vizier's Aumils as to a refractory disposition on the part of the Zemindar, you evinced a very laudable anxiety to avoid having recourse to coercive measures against the latter, which might be considered as an encouragement to injustice and oppression. A similar line of conduct must be followed in all such cases in future. We cannot too highly applaud the practice which the Resident at Lucknow, Captain Baillie, says he has invariably followed, of making a previous inquiry into the justice of the cause in which he was called on to employ the British troops, and that, with reference to the actual state of the Vizier's Government, the employment of these troops in support of his Excellency's Aumils without investigation, had, since his appointment to the Residency, been the subject of his anxiety and concern. We are equally gratified to find that the dispute with the Zemindar above mentioned, has been since amicably settled.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *to* BENGAL,

Dated the 4th September 1811.

Political Le
to Benga
4 Sept. 18

Letter from, dated 13th January 1809.—(86:) Detachment under Major O'Donnell employed in the district of Kewae for the support of the Vizier's authority over certain refractory Zemindars.

43. We have often had occasion to lament the frequency of detachments of our troops being called upon in support of the authority of his Excellency the Vizier, in cases of dispute between his Aumils and Zemindars as to the payment of the revenues. It were to be wished, in order to avoid coercive

measures, that some mode might be adopted for adjusting the disagreements that may occasionally arise between the Nawaub's Aumils and the renters, through the interference of the Resident, which might not be considered as an encroachment on his Highness's authority over that part of his country remaining in his possession. We feel great concern for the consequences of the operations of

* Consultations. 2d, 9th, 23d, and 30th January, 20th and 27th February, 6th and 20th March, and 2d May.

† Letter dated 15th September 1809.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
4 Sept. 1811.

of Major O'Donnell's detachment against the garrison of Pathur Surace, as described in the letter from that officer of the 1st November 1808. We regret with you the necessity of such severities, in cases where the degree of guilt on the part of the sufferers is so uncertain and ill-defined as in the disputes between the Zemindars and the Aumils of the Vizier, but we are not prepared to propose a remedy. We can only recommend the subject to your serious consideration.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1811.

POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 15th October 1811.

1. Agreeably to the intention expressed in our address of the 27th July last, we now proceed to bring under the notice of your Honourable Court, the circumstances connected with the endeavours employed by this Government to introduce into the territories of his Excellency the Vizier a reform of the vicious system of his Excellency's administration.

2. Your Honourable Court cannot fail to have observed with sentiments of regret and concern, the frequent occasions for the employment of British troops in reducing to obedience the Zemindars of the Vizier's territory, who have been represented by his Excellency or by the Aumils to be refractory. The cause of resistance, on the part of the Zemindars, to the authority of the Aumils has too frequently been the oppressions and undue exactions of the Vizier's officers and the over-assessment of the lands; and the British Government has thus often been required to support, by the aid of its troops, the cause of injustice, and to contribute to the preservation of a system injurious to the real interests of the State, and destructive of the rights, the comfort, and prosperity of the people.

3. Your Honourable Court is apprized, by former reports, of the endeavours employed by this Government to establish, in concert with the Vizier, an arrangement which should afford the means of investigating the merits of the cause in which our aid was demanded, previously to the actual adoption of coercive measures. But the peculiar character and disposition of the Vizier has rendered those endeavours abortive. Indeed, an effectual remedy for the evil of which we have so much reason to complain would not be afforded even by the success of those endeavours, because the evil exists in the system itself, which independently of any injustice on the part of the Aumils, has a tendency to deprive the Zemindars and farmers of the means of fulfilling their engagements. A power of inquisition established in the hands of the Resident at the Vizier's Court cannot reach the evils and abuses proceeding from a system of dominion, from which the administration of justice is totally excluded, and in which the will of the Sovereign, stimulated by a spirit of insatiable rapacity, constitutes the law.

4. The present Resident at Lucknow, Major Baillie, has, in more than one instance, taken the occasion of the employment of our troops on services of the nature above described, to employ all the influence of his representative character, with a view to induce the Vizier to adopt an improved system for the assessment and collection of his revenues in those parts of his territories which were the scenes of disturbance; but his efforts have proved fruitless. We shall advert with some degree of detail to the circumstances of the last occasion, as being the immediate cause of the adoption of those measures which it is the purpose of this address to report to your Honourable Court.

5. In the month of July 1810, the Vizier founded on the reports of his Aumil of Purtaubgurh, relative to the refractory conduct of the principal Zemindars, a requisition for the aid of our troops, to support the authority of the Aumil and to effect the destruction of the fortresses of all the Zemindars in the district; a requisition extended with respect to the neighbouring districts of Sultanpore and Dalmow.

6. The

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6. The measure properly adopted by the Resident on that occasion was to issue instructions to the officers commanding the British troops stationed at Purtaubgurh and Sultaupore, directing them to investigate and report upon the merits of the several alleged causes of complaint against the Zemindars, the state of the districts, and the character and conduct of the principal landholders, with a view to be prepared to pursue such measures of a military nature as justice might demand when the rainy season should expire. The intentions of the Resident, however, were not confined to this object. He judiciously endeavoured to combine with it the accomplishment of a system of reform with regard to those districts which might subsequently be extended to others, and thereby lay a foundation for a general improvement in the administration of the country. The sole object of the Vizier himself was to effect the destruction of all the forts, not only in these districts but throughout his Excellency's dominions, which afforded the Zemindars the means of resisting either the just or the unjust demands of the Aumils. The Resident, on the contrary, while he admitted the policy and acquiesced in the proposal of destroying the forts, wisely sought to provide for the future security of the Zemindars against oppression and exaction, and for the realization of the dues of Government, by ascertaining the real assets of the districts, and founding on a knowledge of them the assessment of the lands to be secured by a triennial settlement.

7. In pursuance of his views, the Vizier, in the course of his correspondence on this subject with the Resident, proposed, with reference to the Resident's complaint of the neglect of persons already acting in the districts in quality of Ameens in failing to transmit information regarding the state of the country, that some respectable person should be appointed by his Excellency with suitable assistants, and another person with requisite assistants on the part of the Resident, to ascertain the condition and strength of the several forts, the number of armed men with the Zemindars, their strong holds, &c., so that every necessary information regarding the forts being obtained during the rainy season, measures might with the greater facility be adopted for their demolition when the season for military operations should arrive; proposing, at the same time to the consideration of the Resident, the expediency of their subsequently proceeding into the districts in question, and there determine on future measures.

8. The Resident in his reply, after adverting to the insufficiency of the measures which had already been adopted to ascertain the state of the districts, expressed his intention of selecting some respectable person to accompany another on the part of the Vizier, to ascertain the real condition of the districts with a view to their future settlement, and stated his readiness to attend the Vizier to the spot at a proper season, and assist him in concluding the settlement; intimating at the same time, that measures should be adopted after the rains for effecting the demolition of the forts by means of troops and a battering-train, if intermediate arrangements should not preclude the necessity of pursuing those means.

9. His Excellency the Vizier, in replying to this communication, objected to the Resident's proposition of deputing Ameens for the purpose of ascertaining the state of the districts with a view to a final settlement of them, observing that his own proposal went no further than to depute persons for the purpose of ascertaining the condition of the forts and the military strength of the Zemindars preparatory to the reduction of the former, and that the object proposed by the Resident was unnecessary, as Ameens were already in the districts.

10. The Resident deemed it necessary to report his proceedings at this stage of his negotiations, for the purpose of obtaining the instructions of Government. He adverted to the Vizier's perversion of the object of deputing Ameens, and observed that the limited purpose proposed by the Vizier would render that measure nugatory. That if it was the wish of Government that the whole of the fortresses in the Vizier's dominions be destroyed, with a view to the permanent tranquillity of the country and the easy realization of its revenue, without referenc to the conduct of his Excellency's Aumils or Zemindars, there

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there appeared to be no necessity for an investigation of the causes of disorder in the districts of Purtaubgurh, Sultanpore, and Dalmow; and he conceived that the employment of the disposable force already stationed at Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, with the aid of a battering-train from Elahabad, would answer every purpose of the Vizier's present requisition in the course of a few months of the ensuing cold season. But if the expediency of the repeated destruction of forts in his Excellency's dominions, which past experience had proved that the neglect or venality of his Aumils might soon recall into existence, independently of the consideration of justice towards the landholders by whom those fortresses were erected for the purposes of self-defence against the rapine and extortion of the Aumils, were a question of doubt, there seemed strong ground to insist on the measure of deputing the Ameens on this occasion, in the hope of accomplishing every just object of the Vizier's Government, without engaging in extensive military operations, from the result of which no permanent benefit could be expected under the present system of the Vizier's administration.

11. The Resident proceeded to state, that it was at the same time but justice to observe, that the Vizier had lately appeared to be fully sensible of the ruinous consequences of the system of farming his revenues, in the manner hitherto practised, to persons totally unworthy of trust, and that a considerable portion of his dominions was then under the management of Ameens, whose instructions had been prepared, at the Resident's suggestion, in terms very similar to those adopted in the Company's territories. That a proclamation against the construction or repair of fortresses, under a heavy penalty, and in terms suggested by the Resident, had been circulated to most, if not all of the Aumils and principal land-holders in the country; and that his Excellency had repeatedly recognized and acquiesced in a declaration of the Resident's, that no future requisition for the reduction of a fortress already taken and destroyed, or made over to an Aumil, by the exertions of a British force, should under any circumstances be complied with, save as a voluntary concession on the part of the British Government, not implied by even the spirit of its engagements.

12. On the other hand, the Resident remarked, that the precarious expectation of any permanent salutary effects from the measures which had been thus recently adopted at his suggestion, by no means appeared to warrant an immediate decision in favour of the Vizier's requisition for the reduction of all the forts in his dominions, or even in the district of Purtaubgurh, without an investigation into the state of the country in the manner which he (the Resident) had proposed.

13. In reply to this communication, the Resident was informed that Government entirely approved his suggestion to the Vizier on the subject of the Ameens: that it was left, however, at his discretion, to urge the adoption of the measure, when he should have received the reports which he had called for from the commanding officers in Purtaubgurh and Sultanpore: that Government, at the same time, was by no means prepared, as the alternative of the suggested measure, to acquiesce in the perverted object of it proposed by the Vizier; and that, with regard to the question of destroying the forts, the only determination Government was at present disposed to form was, that they should be destroyed in cases in which the possessors had taken advantage of them to resist the just authority of the State, and compelled the employment of our troops to enforce their obedience.

14. The reports furnished by Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Palmer, commanding in Purtaubgurh, relative to the conduct of the principal Zemindars, in conformity to the Resident's instructions, represented them generally in a state of disobedience, and appeared to justify the orders which the Resident in consequence issued to Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer and the officer commanding in Sultanpore, to proceed to the destruction of the forts in the three districts, of which he transmitted a list of twenty-two, calling at the same time for a battering-train from Elahabad. But Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer was also directed by the Resident to mediate an adjustment of the demands of the Aumils on the Zemindars, without relinquishing the object of destroying the forts; an object which the

the Vizier continued to urge, although with views different from those of the Resident, who was anxious to combine with that desirable measure such a settlement of the country as would deprive the Zemindars of the only plea on which they could justify a claim to the possession of their forts.

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15. This contrariety of views formed the subject of a long and vexatious correspondence between the Vizier and the Resident, the general outline of which it will be proper to trace. But as no difference of opinion existed with regard to the expediency of destroying the forts in the three refractory districts, that service was undertaken and pursued with success, and without resistance on the part of the Zemindars, but not without difficulties and delays, arising from the negligence or inactivity of the Vizier's officers in furnishing supplies to the British troops and materials for the demolition of the forts.

16. That part of the Resident's correspondence with the Vizier to which we have above alluded, commenced by his Excellency's requesting the Resident to suggest some plan for the restoration of order in the three districts, and to state his opinion regarding the expediency of his Excellency's proceeding thither in person, or deputing Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan to settle the affairs of the districts. Mehdee Alee Khan, it may be proper to observe, is Aumil of Khyrabad and Mohomdee, districts in the northern quarter of the Vizier's territories, and the most able and intelligent of his Excellency's Aumils.

17. In reply, the Resident very properly observed, that if the Vizier's object was merely the punishment of the refractory Zemindars and the reduction of their forts, neither his Excellency's presence in the districts, nor the deputation of Mehdee Alee Khan was necessary. That neither would his Excellency's progress through the districts be attended with any advantage, if it was his intention, in the future arrangements for those districts, to revert to the original system of consigning them to farmers, nor in the case of his Excellency's determining to retain them aumancee, that is, under charge of officers appointed by the Government, if he entrusted the settlement of the lands to the Tehsildars then in employment. But, on the other hand, if his Excellency proposed to make a settlement of that portion of his dominions in the manner adopted in the Company's territories, his Excellency's presence in the districts was certainly advisable, and might prove beneficial in the highest degree.

18. With respect to the deputation of Mehdee Alee Khan (meaning as the alternative of the Vizier's proceeding to the districts in question), the Resident discouraged it on the ground of the apparent impracticability of his taking charge of the affairs of those districts with effect, in addition to the charge he already held in a distant quarter of his Excellency's dominions.

19. In a subsequent letter, however, written after a personal conference with the Vizier on the subject of it, the Resident founded partly on the tenor of that conference, and partly on the receipt of intelligence from Colonel Palmer regarding the disinclination or inability of the Aumils to furnish supplies and other necessities for the troops, a proposition for the deputation of Mehdee Alee Khan to the districts in question, for the purpose of collecting the necessary supplies in the first instance, and for other important purposes; alluding, as subsequently explained by the Resident, principally to an investigation into the state of the districts and their real assets, with a view to a future final settlement. The Vizier, however, interpreted this proposition to be the deputation of Mehdee Alee Khan merely for the purpose of collecting supplies for the troops, and on that ground withheld his consent; and notwithstanding the Resident's subsequent explanation, his Excellency persevered in giving that construction to the Resident's proposition, until at length, by drawing from Mehdee Alee Khan a declaration of his inability to undertake the additional duty suggested for him by the Resident, the project was necessarily abandoned, and another person, named Mohommud Ashruf, appointed for the purpose.

20. The real motive of the Vizier's conduct on this occasion was, we are satisfied, that to which we have already adverted, namely, his Excellency's disinclination to any arrangement which would lead to a just and moderate assessment of the lands, founded on a review of their real assets, on principles consistent

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consistent with the prosperity and happiness of his subjects, and calculated to deprive him of the profits arising from the injurious system of arbitrary assessment, and from the confiscation of the property of defaulting farmers and collectors, which had so long prevailed throughout his Excellency's dominions; and to deprive the Zemindars and other landholders of the means of resisting the exactions and oppressions necessarily proceeding from this vicious system of administration has been the sole object of his Excellency's solicitude for the destruction of their forts. The object of the Resident, on the other hand, has been (as we have already observed) in depriving the Zemindars of the means of resistance, to remove the causes which have excited it, by determining and permanently securing their rights and the rights of the State, through the medium of a fixed and guaranteed assessment.

21. In pursuance of this salutary project, the Resident, in the course of his correspondence with the Vizier, and previously to the appointment of Mohummud Ashruf, availed himself of the desire expressed by the Vizier, that he should suggest what appeared to him to be advisable for the settlement of affairs in the districts of Purtaubgurh, Sultanpore, and Dalmow, to convey to his Excellency several distinct propositions directed to that object, the detail of which it seems proper to insert in this place. Those propositions were as follow:—

1st. That an able and intelligent man (if not Mehdee Alee Khan, some other person) should be immediately appointed by his Excellency, and deputed to provide for the necessary supplies for the troops, to make enquiry regarding the fortresses and other strong-holds of the Zemindars, to give timely and regular information to the commanding-officer, to ascertain the revenue of the districts and what the talookas were capable of yielding at a fair and moderate valuation; in short, to obtain and furnish to his Excellency every degree of necessary information, with a view to the final settlement of the districts.

2d. That a proclamation should be issued in the districts in the terms of a draft which the Resident submitted to the Vizier, and which was to the following effect:—

“ Be it known to the Zemindars, Talookadars, &c. &c. in the mohuls of Sultanpore, Purtaubgurh, and Manickpore Behar, that whereas, with a view to the security, happiness, and prosperity of all my subjects in these districts, I have now directed a triennial settlement at a moderate assessment to be made, commencing with the Fusly year 1218, that so the Zemindars and Ryots being secure from the unjust exactions of Aumils and Moostajers (farmers) may with confidence cultivate their lands and labour for the increase of the revenues: and whereas it is obvious that, under this arrangement, there can be no occasion whatever for the protection of forts or strong-holds of any description in the possession of the Zemindars, many of whom have been proved to take advantage of the forts in their possession, for the purpose of resisting authority and withholding the revenues of the sircar, which conduct on their parts has frequently induced other Zemindars to act in a similar manner, to the great injury of the Government; therefore it has now been resolved, that no Zemindar in my dominions shall be permitted to retain a fortress or strong-hold of any description in his possession, and that in the same manner as the fortresses, ghurries, and other strong-holds in the Zillahs of Baraitch and Keewuee have been destroyed and levelled to the ground, the forts in the districts of Purtaubgurh, &c., shall also be taken and levelled, but that the Zemindars of the districts in question shall be permitted, without molestation or objection, to retain or construct and inhabit their houses, gardens, and inclosures, whether *kutchas* or *tuckas*, and of whatever extent or description.

“ You are accordingly hereby required to surrender and make over to Colonel Palmer, commanding the British troops in Purtaubgurh, whatever fortress or ghurrie you may possess, without delay, opposition, or hesitation; and in this case every favour will be shewn to you, your balances of revenue for all preceding years till the end of the Fusly year 1216 will be forgiven, and no demand on account of those years shall be made; but in case of your disobedience to this order, and the reduction of your fortresses by force of arms, no
“ forgive-

“ forgiveness nor exemption shall be granted, your forts and habitations shall be destroyed, and yourselves shall be expelled from your zemindaries.”

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The third proposition related to the remission of balances up to the end of the year 1216 Fusly, as stated in the proclamation, and was to this effect: That as the districts in question had been for many years in the hands of farmers, and the Zemindars and inhabitants of them at large had been long subjected to unjust exactions and oppression, in addition to which it was difficult, if not impracticable, to ascertain the true amount of arrears of revenue for preceding years, the Resident suggested that the balances of all former years, till the end of the Fusly year 1216, should be remitted to the Zemindars of the three districts in question, and also of the district of Akburpore, and that no demands should be made on account of the balances of those years.

The fourth proposition related to the formation of the triennial settlement, as noticed also in the proclamation, and was stated as follows: That a triennial settlement should be concluded with all the Zemindars of the districts, which would prevent the necessity of his Excellency the Vizier's marching every year, or of detaching the British troops to assist the Aumils in their settlements. That as this settlement would also involve the specification of a fixed time for the payment of every instalment of the revenue of each year, the outstanding balances would be at all times clearly ascertained, and there would be no trouble, as heretofore, in investigating the justice of the Aumil's demands from the Zemindars. That the Zemindars, too, would have confidence in the Government, and would occupy themselves in the cultivation of their lands, the revenue of the State would be increased, and the people contented and happy.

The fifth proposition suggested his Excellency the Vizier's fixing a period for his stay in each of the districts to be comprehended in his proposed tour, and his issuing injunctions to his officers, under a penalty, to conclude the settlement with the Zemindars within a given period, and to the Zemindars, under a penalty also, to come to a settlement within the same time: and with a view to facilitate the execution of the suggested orders, the Resident proposed that a scheme of the settlement of each district, under the signature of the Chowdries and Canoongoes and the seal of the Ameens, should be submitted to his Excellency before his arrival in the district.

22. These propositions occasioned a voluminous correspondence between the Vizier and the Resident, in the course of which his Excellency, although professing to be guided by the Resident's advice, endeavoured to evade the ultimate object of them, by withholding his consent to the deputation of a person vested with the requisite powers and instructions to collect the information, and supply the materials necessary for the conclusion of the triennial settlement on just and moderate terms. His Excellency met that article of the Resident's propositions, by announcing his intention to depute an officer of his Government merely for purposes connected with the supply of the troops and the destruction of the forts, referring the Resident to a former letter, in which his Excellency had signified that the Aumils must be left to decide on the real amount of the revenue and the capacity of the lands, and that if after the Aumil's decision any person proved refractory and refused to satisfy the just claims of the State, the commanding-officer of the British troops should be instructed to act against him. His Excellency maintained the impracticability of framing a scheme of the settlement such as the Resident had suggested, and signified to him that if he desired to know what the districts were capable of yielding, his Excellency would inform him, as soon as it could be ascertained by the papers which might hereafter be sent by the Aumils. His Excellency resisted also the proposition for the remission of balances, but expressed his concurrence in the expediency of the triennial settlement.

23. It is unnecessary to describe the various points of discussion which formed the subjects of this correspondence and of frequent conferences with the Vizier, and it is sufficient to state, that the Resident finally succeeded in obtaining his Excellency's consent to most of the propositions which had been submitted to him. His Excellency actually issued the suggested proclamation, and appointed

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an officer (Mohummud Ashruf above mentioned) with the requisite powers, and with instructions conformable to the Resident's recommendation.

24. In the meantime the battering-train having arrived, Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer proceeded with the British troops into the districts, to execute his orders relative to the suppression of the refractory Zemindars and the demolition of the forts. His operations, although continually impeded by the negligence or inefficiency of the Aumils, were conducted with success and without any opposition.

25. For the details of the preceding concise and imperfect narrative, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the despatches from the Resident which will be found recorded on the proceedings noted in the margin.*

26. We deem it proper, however, to bring more particularly under the notice of your Honourable Court a despatch from the Resident dated the 5th of December, recorded as per margin,† as representing the condition of affairs in his Excellency's country, and his Excellency's conduct in a point of view that appeared urgently to call for the interposition of this Government in support of the measures which the Resident had so laudably, but, as it ultimately proved, vainly pursued, to effect a reform in his Excellency's internal administration.

27. We have stated above, that the Vizier had at length been induced to acquiesce in the Resident's propositions, and had deputed Mohummud Ashruf into the districts of Purtaubgurh, &c. with powers and instructions conformable to the Resident's suggestions. It soon appeared, however, that Mohummud Ashruf totally perverted the object of his mission; that instead of adopting measures to ascertain the real assets and condition of the districts, with a view to the relief of the Zemindars and farmers from the excessive demands and extortions to which they had so long been exposed, to the ruin and disturbance of the country and to the conclusion of a triennial settlement on just and moderate terms, Mohummud Ashruf acted as if deputed for the sole purpose of increasing the revenues, by exacting even larger sums from the Zemindars than they had hitherto been accustomed to pay. This was sufficiently evident from an address of Mohummud Ashruf himself to the Vizier, a translation of which formed an enclosure in the Resident's despatch. In a remonstrance which on this occasion the Resident addressed to the Vizier, he justly remarked, that from Mohummud Ashruf's own report, it was evident "that nothing but
"oppression to the Ryots, disputes between Mohummud Ashruf and the Zemin-
"dars, and finally disorder in the country, could be expected from his deputa-
"tion. That the views which the Resident had entertained, and for the satis-
"factory accomplishment of which both the Vizier and he had laboured so
"long and had held so many unpleasant discussions during a period of five
"months, must be entirely and inevitably frustrated, and that no satisfactory
"arrangement could now be made in the current year."

28. In thus reporting the failure of his endeavours to effect a beneficial arrangement with regard to the districts of Purtaubgurh, Sultanpore, and Dalmow, the Resident brought under the notice of Government the condition of the extensive territories formerly under the charge of the late Almass Alee Khan, to which we have already briefly adverted.

29. The Resident represented the state of these territories in the following words:—"The districts which were occupied by that Aumil (Almass Alee Khan),
"yielding an annual revenue of about thirty lacs of rupees, had been transferred
"immediately on his death, in opposition to my wishes and suggestions, to the
"Eunuch Rehmud Alee Khan, Almass's nominal brother, whose failure in the
"payment of the revenue occasioned his removal and disgrace in the course of a
"few months, and the subsequent transfer of the districts on similar terms to
"a person named Mirza Jān, the adopted son of Almass, who has also neces-
"sarily failed to fulfil his engagements to the Government, and is now under
"personal

* Consultations, 16th August, 25th September, 5th October, 10th November, and 20th December 1810.

† Consultations, 28th December 1810.

“ personal restraint for balances which can never be liquidated, and the demand
“ of a large portion of which is, in my opinion, unjust and oppressive.”

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30. The Resident proceeded to state, that on the occasion of the death of Almass Alee Khan, and on the two subsequent occasions of the transfer of the districts which he farmed to his nominal brother and son, at the exorbitant rate of his engagements, the Resident suggested in strong terms to the Vizier the impropriety of his consigning so large a portion of his dominions to any individual Aumil, more particularly to the dependants of Almass, and the expediency of his appointing a number of trustworthy persons as Ameens, to investigate and report upon the real state of the districts and the condition of the landholders and peasantry, with a view to a beneficial arrangement for the future management of the country; but that a compliance with the Resident's suggestions was evaded by his Excellency, upon grounds which precluded the Resident from continuing to urge the point. The Resident added, that the territories which had thus been farmed by Almass, Rehmud Alee Khan, and Mirza Jān, in succession, had now been parcelled out to a number of petty farmers, without any reduction of the terms, and under circumstances which precluded the possibility of the due realization of the revenue, without the gradual devastation of the lands and the ruin of the landholder and peasantry.

31. The Resident reported, that he had again set before the Vizier the ruinous consequences of those measures, and had predicted to his Excellency the speedy removal and imprisonment of a majority, if not all, of the newly-appointed Aumils, whose personal wealth only, and by no means their capacity for the trust, had induced their nomination. The Resident further observed to the Vizier, with great justice, that individual wealth among his subjects, and the sources from which it was derived, were now nearly at an end and must very shortly be exhausted; and that ultimately, when the soil of his dominions, and the industrious cultivators of that soil, should form the only sources of his revenues, he would find the first to be totally unproductive, and would search for the latter in vain.

32. The Resident continued in his despatch his report of the substance of additional remarks and remonstrances on the same subject; in the course of which he had suggested to his Excellency the justice of remitting a portion of the balances, and had repeated his earnest advice that a system so ruinous should be immediately corrected.

33. The Resident, after noticing the failure of all his remonstrances, concludes with the following observation:—“ His Excellency's leading passion of avarice, and all its concomitant evils, have, as is natural, increased with his age; and the reluctance and impatience with which he ever listened to remonstrance against the inordinate gratification of this passion, or against any other unjust measure of his Government, have lately arisen to a degree of peevishness and irritation, which renders the efficient conduct of the duties of my station at his Court, combined with the observances and offices of personal respect and conciliation, a great deal more difficult than before.”

34. As an instance of the truth of this latter remark, the Resident took this occasion to report to Government that the Vizier having recently evinced a design to take advantage of the change of his system with regard to the districts of Almass, by whom and his successors in office the jagier of Tujumool Hoosein Khan (the son of the late celebrated Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan) had been farmed, for the purpose of converting this jagier into an annual pension, to the manifest loss of the Jagierdar, he (the Resident) considered it to be his duty to remonstrate against the execution of this design in the most urgent terms, and to state to his Excellency the impropriety of his adopting any new measures with regard to the jagier without the previous sanction of the British Government, at whose instance it was originally granted to Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan, and subsequently confirmed in the possession of his only son and representative.

35. This remonstrance, however, only produced on the part of the Vizier an avowal of his intention to commute the jagier, and an ungenerous complaint against the support afforded by the British Government to Tujumool Hoosein Khan

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Khan and others in a similar predicament; alluding principally to the protection afforded to that person by this Government on the occasion of the calumnious accusation of an attempt against the Vizier's life, the particulars of which were reported to your Honourable Court in the Governor-General in Council's address of the 4th August 1809. The Resident repelled this unjust insinuation with proper spirit, but deemed it necessary to call for instructions on the question of opposing the resumption of the jagier. The Resident also desired instructions with regard to the propriety of his more active interference for the protection of the dependants of Almass Alee Khan, in their character of Aumils, against the unjust demands of the Vizier.

36. The Governor-General in Council deemed the present a fit occasion for calling on his Excellency the Vizier to fulfil that article of the Treaty of 1801, by which he engaged to "establish in his reserved dominions such a system of administration (to be carried into effect by his own officers) as should be conducive to the prosperity of his subjects, and be calculated to secure the lives and property of the inhabitants." The efforts of the Resident had fruitlessly been employed, as we have shewn in the preceding part of this despatch, to lay a foundation for a general reform, by introducing it into those districts, for the tranquillization of which his Excellency the Vizier had required the aid of our troops, and he had in vain endeavoured to persuade his Excellency to abrogate that ruinous system of farming which prevailed in the extensive territories formerly managed by the late Almass Alee Khan. The alternative, therefore, was left to the British Government, of acquiescing in the failure of those efforts, and thereby encouraging the Vizier in a resistance to the legitimate counsels of the Resident, and sanctioning by its silence the continuance of a vicious and oppressive system of administration, which Government had so long upheld by the unavoidable employment of its troops in the suppression of disorders, the consequence of that system, or to aim at the removal of those evils by a direct interposition of that weight and influence which it is entitled to possess and to employ by the nature of the connexion between the two States and by the express provisions of treaty.

37. The Governor-General in Council could have no hesitation in adopting the latter course of proceeding. The necessary instructions were accordingly issued to the Resident at Lucknow, under date the 28th of December 1810, accompanied by a suitable letter from the Governor-General to the address of his Excellency the Vizier.

38. The Governor-General commenced this address by referring to recent transactions, and to the negotiations which had passed between the Vizier and the Resident, and which the conduct of his Excellency's officers, of the very persons whose duty it was to carry into effect the measures recommended by the Resident and acquiesced in by his Excellency, had rendered abortive. His Lordship then proceeded to advert to the evils and errors of the existing system of the administration of the revenue in the Vizier's dominions; to the almost annual employment of British troops in suppressing disorders occasioned by the prevalence of that system; to the consequent right and duty of the British Government to inquire into the sources of this evil, and to urge the adoption of such a system of measures as, in the judgment of that Government, was calculated to counteract it, without injury to the rights and authority of his Excellency.

39. The Governor-General next adverted to the obligation imposed on the Vizier by the sixth article of the Treaty of 1801 to reform the system of his administration, referring also to a supplemental agreement resulting from the late Governor-General Marquis Wellesley's personal conferences with his Excellency in the year 1802, by which the Vizier engaged to advise with the British Government and to conform to its counsels, in the establishment of an improved system of administration within the reserved territories, and also in all affairs connected with the ordinary Government of those territories and with the usual exercise of his Excellency's established authority.

40. His Lordship having next adverted to the actual exercise of this right of counsel through the legitimate organ of the British representative at his Excellency's Court, to the failure of the Resident's endeavours to accomplish the object

object of it, and to the duty consequently devolving upon his Lordship to interpose, in the form of a direct address, the earnest advice and recommendation of the British Government on this important subject, proceeded to point out more particularly the causes of the evils and abuses prevailing in the administration.

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41. His Lordship observed, that those evils and abuses arose principally from the destructive practice of assigning the charge of the collections to persons who offered the highest terms; from the uncertain tenure by which the Aumils held the charge of their respective districts; from the violation of the engagements contracted between the Aumils, Zemindars, under-renters, and Ryots; from the arbitrary and oppressive exactions which pervaded the whole system of the revenue through every gradation, from the Aumil to the Ryot; from the defective and injudicious constitution of that system and the injurious mode of making the collections; that it was solely to the prevalence of this defective and destructive system of administration, that the refractory disposition of the Zemindars, the failure of the Aumils and farmers in the execution of their engagements, the existence of heavy balances, and all the disorders which so frequently required the employment of troops, were to be attributed.

42. Having then stated that these evils could alone be remedied by an essential change in the system of assessment, management of collection, his Lordship proceeded to trace the outline of a plan of reform which he recommended to his Excellency's adoption, and of which the following composed the fundamental principles, *viz.* a just and moderate assessment; a settlement for a term of years; the conclusion of engagements, by gradation, from the Aumil to the Ryot, and the guarantee of those engagements by the authority of the State.

43. For the details of this scheme of reform, as far as the Governor-General in Council deemed it necessary to describe them in a letter to the Vizier's address, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the record of that document which is entered on the proceedings of the date noted in the margin.*

44. Your Honourable Court will observe, that the Governor-General in his letter to the Vizier had not adverted to that branch of administration, without which no arrangement for the due management of the revenues can ever be completely efficient, namely, the establishment of tribunals of justice for the protection of the lives and property of the subjects, for the detection and punishment of crimes, for the redress of grievances and for the adjustment of disputed claims. The Governor-General in Council was withheld from introducing that subject, by his unwillingness to press at once upon his Excellency's attention too many objects of reform, and thereby diminish the hope of his regard to any; but the Resident was instructed to bring that important subject under discussion, also, at a proper season.

45. As affording a striking instance of the evils of the existing system of the Vizier's administration, the Governor-General took occasion to introduce the subject of the lands held by the late Almass Alee Khan, noticing the salutary but unsuccessful counsel of the Resident with regard to the future management of those lands, pointing out the ruinous consequences of the system, and combining with the discussion an appeal to the Vizier in favour of the dependants of Almass Alee Khan; referring his Excellency, however, to the Resident, to whom particular instructions on these points had been issued.

46. The Governor-General added his earnest request, that the Vizier would give his serious and immediate attention to the accomplishment of the object of reform; an object in every respect so important to his Excellency's interests, his reputation, the prosperity and tranquillity of his country, and the comfort and happiness of his subjects; in which salutary work, his Lordship informed him, the Resident would be prepared, under instructions issued to him for that purpose, to afford to his Excellency every degree of assistance and support.

47. The

* Consultations, 28th December 1810.

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47. The Governor-General concluded his address by adverting to the Vizier's declared intention of commuting the jagier of Tujummool Hoosein Khan for a stipend, and to the claims to every degree of favour and indulgence which the family of the late Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan possessed on his Excellency and the Company, and by soliciting the Vizier in the strongest terms to abstain from the prosecution of a measure so injurious to the interests of Tujummool Hoosein Khan.

48. The instructions issued to the Resident on this occasion commenced with a communication of the Governor-General in Council's entire approbation of the whole of the Resident's proceedings, as reported in his despatches. After expressions of regret at the failure of the Resident's zealous and laudable endeavours to induce the Vizier to commence the work of reform, the motives and the necessity of the direct interference of Government were stated to the following effect: that its interests were too deeply concerned in the reform of the present vicious system of administration in his Excellency's dominions to permit the Governor-General in Council tacitly to acquiesce in its continuance; that to the evils and abuses of that system, to the oppression and injustice which naturally flowed from it, were principally to be ascribed those disorders which the British troops were so frequently employed to suppress: that this Government had ever viewed with painful regret the employment of its troops in services of this nature, the general tendency of which had necessarily been to uphold and encourage those acts of violence, injustice, and extortion, which a system erroneous in its principle and oppressive in its operation could not fail to engender.

49. That it concerned the reputation of the British Government, therefore, as well as its interest, to interpose the weight of its influence, for the introduction of a reform which might relieve us from the imputation of being the instruments of oppression and injustice, of perpetuating the practical gradation of evils and abuses which, unsupported by the military power of the Company, would speedily produce their natural consequences, successful resistance to the authority of the Vizier, and general anarchy and confusion throughout his Excellency's dominions.

50. A reference being then made to an enclosed copy of the letter to the Vizier for a knowledge of the arrangement recommended by Government for the reform of the administration, it was observed, that adverting to the character and established habits of the Vizier, the Governor-General in Council did not entertain very sanguine hopes that either the proposed arrangement would be carried into complete effect, or that the engagements which might be concluded under it would be faithfully adhered to. That it was to be apprehended his Excellency would not be induced to accede to the terms of a just and moderate assessment; to sacrifice, for the hope of some permanent but distant benefit, any prospect, however fallacious, of immediate pecuniary profit. That while he acquiesced in the expediency of the plan, he would interpose obstacles to its efficient execution; and that its operation would be in a great measure defeated, by practices and abuses which the ordinances of a wise and well-constituted Government, or a strong and steady principle of justice in the governing power, was alone capable of restraining.

51. That at the same time, however, even a defective execution of the plan would be attended with some advantage. That the engagements which might be concluded would at least form a criterion by which to judge of the merits of complaints of oppression, to regulate demands, to afford relief, or to inflict punishment; and that some foundation would be laid for the gradual improvement of the system of administration. That at all events, this Government discharged a positive duty, by employing its efforts for the correction of evils affecting its own interests, the interests of humanity and justice, those of the Vizier and his subjects, and the prosperity and tranquillity of his dominions; and that Government preserved, by asserting and exercising it, that right of interference, which by disuse might prescriptively be lost or essentially impaired, and which if not on the present, might on some future occasion be efficiently exercised.

52. These

52. These observations were followed by directions conveying to the Resident some latitude of deviation from the precise plan of arrangement recommended to the Vizier, but requiring an adherence to its fundamental principles.

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53. Although the Governor-General in Council was aware that both the state of the Vizier's country and his Excellency's views and dispositions were entirely adverse to the success of a proposition for the introduction of that most efficient and beneficial of all systems of reform, a permanent settlement of the land revenue, yet his Lordship in Council deemed it advisable to state some remarks on its peculiar applicability to the condition of a government, which by its dependent connection with another was not subject to great occasional increase of charge by war, and the expenses of which, therefore, might themselves be considered as permanently fixed; and to express to the Resident our opinion, that it should be an object of our policy gradually to bring it about, and that Government could not employ the influence which it had a right to exercise over the affairs of Oude either more usefully or more worthily, than first in promoting the general improvement of the internal administration of that country (which was the purpose of the present measures), and subsequently in introducing, if possible, at a proper season, that radical principle of prosperity, both to Government and people, the permanent settlement of its land revenues.

54. The cause which induced the Governor-General in Council to abstain from recommending in the letter to the Vizier the establishment of regular tribunals of justice was then noticed to the Resident, with an intimation, however, that as a system of judicial administration was intimately connected with the efficient operation of the proposed arrangement for the assessment and realization of the revenues, it was necessary that the Resident should be prepared, at a convenient season, to urge this important topic to the Vizier; and, with this view, the Governor-General in Council deemed it proper, in the instructions to the Resident, to trace the general outlines and principles of the system of judicial administration which should be recommended to his Excellency's adoption, although little hope, it was observed, could be entertained that his Excellency would ever be induced to adopt it more than partially, if to adopt it at all.

55. For the details of this projected system which was founded on the general principles of the British laws and regulations, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the record of the instructions to the Resident, which will be found as noted in the margin.*

56. With regard to the two points on which the Resident had specifically desired the orders of Government, he was informed that his advice and remonstrances to the Vizier on both those points were entirely approved, and he was directed to renew his representations under the express sanction of Government. It was observed, at the same time, that our right to demand the adoption of more just and lenient proceedings, with regard to the unfortunate family of Almass Alee Khan, than those which his Excellency had hitherto pursued, was more questionable than that which we possessed, and were bound indeed by every obligation of justice to exercise, of securing the family of the late Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan from the effects of his Excellency's disposition to injure their condition; and the Resident was therefore directed distinctly to signify to the Vizier, that the British Government considered itself as the guarantee of their rights derived from his predecessor, and could not acquiesce in any violation of them.

57. Before we notice the Resident's reports of his proceedings under the foregoing instructions, it is proper to advert to the substance of his intermediate communications received subsequently to the despatch of those instructions, the execution of which was necessarily delayed until the Resident's receipt of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, the preparation of which in the Persian language occupied a considerable time.

58. Those

* Consultations, 23th December 1810.

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58. Those communications will be found recorded as per margin.* They report the successful progress of the peaceable surrender and destruction of the fortresses in the districts of Purtaubgurh and Dalmow, the consequence not only of the imposing presence of the force under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer, but of the faith reposed in the proclamation issued at the suggestion of the Resident, as already described. But the confidence of the Zemindars in the wise and lenient measures announced in the proclamation appears to have been disturbed, and the obligation of that instrument to have been violated by the proceedings of Mohummud Ashruf (whose conduct has already been substantially noticed) in the temporary settlement of the districts to which he was deputed. His conduct was represented to the Resident by Lieutenant-Colonel Palmer in the following terms:—

“ I am under the painful necessity of making known to you, that contrary
“ to the tenor of the Vizier's proclamation that the lands in this province
“ shall be assessed at such reasonable rates as to render the payment of the
“ revenues easy to the subject, his Excellency's agent, Mohummed Ashruf,
“ has lately, in various instances which have come to my knowledge,
“ imposed the most burthensome and highest possible terms on many of the
“ Zemindars; and I have the mortification to perceive, that the presence of
“ the British detachment under my command is made use of solely, though
“ under other pretences, to intimidate such persons as venture a remonstrance,
“ into an agreement to conclude a settlement at the most exorbitant rates.

“ The obvious consequences of which behaviour of the commissioner are a
“ renewal of those discontents which have so long prevailed, and which the
“ assurances contained in his Excellency's proclamation in a great measure
“ caused to subside, a total distrust in such proclamations in future, and the
“ difficulty which will attend the collection of the Revenue, if the payment of
“ it should not be altogether refused or evaded.”

59. His Excellency the Vizier, at the instance of the Resident, issued instructions to Mohummud Ashruf, directing him to abstain from demanding excessive rates of revenue; but we are compelled to admit the belief, that the conduct of that officer had the private sanction of his Excellency himself, who while professing to act in conformity to the Resident's advice, and at this very time giving him reason to expect the early receipt of a scheme of a triennial settlement for the districts to which Mohummud Ashruf was deputed, which however has never been furnished, was very capable of promoting measures of an opposite tendency.

60. The communications from the Resident to which we have above referred, also report the extension of disorders to the district of Toudo, and the consequent necessity of directing a detachment of the British troops to proceed into that district, for the purpose of quelling them and of destroying the forts. Disturbances, also, nearly at the same time, broke out in the districts of Jugdeespore. On this subject the Resident stated the following observations, which we cite as being calculated, in conjunction with the facts and circumstances already noticed, to elucidate the character of the Vizier's administration and his Excellency's personal disposition.

“ It is worthy of particular remark, that the district of Jugdeespore is one of
“ those which were long under the management of the late Almass Alee Khan,
“ and recently farmed by his adopted son, Mirza Jān; and that the present
“ farmer, Hyder Alee, is the grandson of a person named Fyzoollah, who was
“ treasurer to the late Almass Alee Khan, and is now under personal restraint,
“ on a vague suspicion of his possessing some portion of the wealth of Almass.

“ That his Excellency the Vizier has in his view the appropriation of all the
“ wealth of Fyzoollah, either by the measures of personal rigor which are now
“ practised against the unfortunate treasurer himself, or by the process of
“ imprisonment and confiscation to be hereafter pursued against his grandson
“ for failure in his engagements as an Aumil, cannot reasonably be doubted;
“ and

* Consultations, 9th and 23d February, and 9th and 15th March.

" and that the supposed wealth of Fyzoolah, and not the capacity of Hyder Afee for the trust which is now in his hands, was the cause of this Aumil's nomination, is, in my mind, an unquestionable fact."

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61. In replying to the Vizier's application for the employment of the British troops to suppress the disorders in Jugdeespore, the Resident observed to his Excellency, that as the Aumil of that district was one of those persons against whose nomination to the charge of the district which he farmed the Resident had some time since remonstrated to his Excellency in earnest terms, on the grounds of his unfitness for the office, and as there was every reason to believe that the disturbances excited in Jugdeespore had arisen from the Aumil's mismanagement, the employment of the British troops on that occasion might, with apparent justice, have been delayed till a due investigation had taken place into the causes of these commotions; yet, as it appeared that the Zemindars had rebelliously opposed the Aumil and killed and wounded several of his Excellency's subjects, the Resident considered their punishment to be necessary, and had issued instructions accordingly.

62. Your Honourable Court will observe in the circumstances above detailed, an additional instance of a requisition (and the necessity of complying with it) for the aid of the Company's troops in suppressing disorders, which the vices of the Vizier's system of management, combined with the unfortunate propensities of his Excellency's disposition, have alone occasioned; and your Honourable Court will infer from it the urgency of the motives which demanded an effort, on the part of your Government, to effect a reform of the existing administration.

63. We now proceed to advert to the Resident's discussions and correspondence with the Vizier on the subject of the general reform of the administration, as recommended in the Governor-General's letter.

64. It would be impracticable, without transcribing the greatest part of the documents on this subject, to represent the whole scope of the extensive and vexatious discussions which, both verbally and in writing, took place on this occasion between his Excellency the Vizier and the Resident: but it is necessary to notice the principal points of those discussions, with a view to exhibit the temper and disposition of his Excellency's mind, and to elucidate the progress and result of this arduous, but, as we have too much reason to apprehend, unsuccessful negotiation.

65. The Resident having read to his Excellency the Governor-General's letter stating such comments and observations as the occasion required, the Vizier stated generally to the Resident that he was disposed to acquiesce in the Governor-General's suggestions to the utmost practicable extent; adding, that he would bestow the most deliberate attention on all the topics of that letter, making his remarks on each, and would convey those remarks to the Resident in writing, for consideration and discussion, before his Excellency prepared his reply to it.

66. This intention the Vizier accordingly fulfilled. In the paper which he transmitted to the Resident he expressed generally, as he had verbally, his disposition to accede to the Governor-General's proposition relative to a reform of the administration, to be carried into effect in the manner prescribed by treaty, but referred to the Resident for the mode in which the particular system recommended by the Governor-General was to be accomplished, adverting to the difficulty of ascertaining the real assets and resources of the country, of procuring trustworthy and capable persons to whom the charge of the several districts should be committed, and of remedying the contingency of the misconduct or incapacity of the persons selected, of investigating the proceeds of the several districts with a view to fix their amount by guaranteed engagements, which engagements, however, his Excellency promised to cause to be executed, when, with the Resident's advice, he should have ascertained the actual proceeds of the several districts, expressing a resolution to punish those who should deviate from such engagements when formed: all which points were specified in the plan of reform recommended by the Governor-General, and on which his

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Excellency evidently commented in a spirit of resistance to the arrangement proposed to his adoption, while he professed his consent to it.

67. On the subject of the imprudent and ruinous arrangement adopted by the Vizier with regard to the country formerly under the management of Almass Alee Khan, which was specially noticed in the Governor-General's letter, his Excellency stated some remarks tending to justify that arrangement on the grounds of usage; desiring, however, that if it were determined, with or without a good cause, to alter the existing system, the Resident would point out such a manner of carrying this change into effect as might tend to his Excellency's reputation, to the increase of the revenue of his Government and the prosperity of his subjects at large, and at the same time might not be contrary to the engagements already entered into by his Excellency, so as in any degree to affect his reputation or cause pecuniary loss.

68. On the question of relieving the condition of the dependants of the late Almass Alee Khan, the Vizier merely observed, that as the Governor-General had issued particular instructions to the Resident on that subject, he should be prepared to give an answer whenever the Resident might renew his representations.

69. On the subject of Tujummool Hoosein Khan's jagier his Excellency was totally silent.

70. The Resident prefaced his answer to the Vizier's remarks by adverting to the total failure of the measures which, with so much labour and discussion, had been pursued for the settlement of the districts of Purtaubgurb, &c. with the exception only of the reduction of the fortresses; adding, however, that as the means by which the future good order, not only of those districts, but of the whole of his Excellency's dominions, were now under consideration, the Resident proceeded to submit arrangements for that purpose, in the form of replies to his Excellency's remarks.

71. The Vizier had declared generally his acquiescence in the Governor-General's propositions, and his resolution to depute Ameens into his districts, as a measure preparatory to the accomplishment of the proposed arrangement. The Resident, therefore, observed that it was necessary first to consider to what places the Ameens should be deputed, and what duties they should be required to perform: that, in the first place, it was indispensable that a division of his Excellency's dominions into four or five Zillahs or general departments, and then a subdivision of those Zillahs into districts, yielding an annual revenue of from one to three lacs of rupees, should immediately take place: That an upright intelligent Ameen should be selected for each of those districts: that when his Excellency had made the selection he should inform the Resident of their names and characters, in order that he also might investigate their characters, and submit his opinion of their qualifications for his Excellency's consideration, after which they should be ordered to proceed into their respective districts, to act according to instructions, of which the Resident proposed to submit a draft for his Excellency's approval.

72. In reply to the Vizier's remark regarding the impracticability of ascertaining the true revenue and resources of his country, the Resident observed that this would form the grand object of the deputation of the Ameens, which would produce the necessary information. The Resident then proceeded to describe the duties of the Ameens with reference to the attainment of that primary object.

73. In answer to the Vizier's remarks on the difficulty of finding upright and intelligent men to perform the duties of Ameens, the Resident referred that difficulty to the unhappy system of administration that had so long prevailed in his Excellency's dominions, to the instability of employment under his Government, and to the danger of personal dishonour as well as confiscation of property which attended it; observing, that when these obstacles should be removed by the reform of the administration, his Excellency would find many able and upright men desirous of employment in his service: that in the Ceded Districts the

the native officers employed by the British Government were originally subjects of his Excellency, yet having confidence in the Government they discharged their duties with zeal and fidelity; and that the same effect would be produced by the operation of the same cause in his Excellency's reserved dominions: that the proofs of the integrity and capacity of the Ameens would appear from the mode in which they executed the duties to be assigned to them, and that those only should be appointed Tehsildars or collectors whose conduct as Ameens should be approved of. This observation had reference to that part of the Governor-General's plan which recommended the appointment of collectors to each Zillah with fixed salaries, as in the Company's provinces.

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74. The Resident took advantage of his reply to that article of the Vizier's paper which stated his intention of causing engagements to be taken, as recommended by the Governor-General, and of punishing those who deviated from them, to introduce the subject of establishing regular courts of justice; observing, that when a satisfactory settlement of the land revenue should be concluded, and when the appointment of capable collectors in all the districts should have taken place, he should earnestly recommend to his Excellency the establishment of an efficient police and of a court of justice in each Zillah, that so a separation of the department of the collections from that of civil and criminal justice might take place, adding, also, some remarks on the beneficial operation of this principle.

75. The Resident entered into some detail of discussion in replying to his Excellency's remarks on the system of management prevailing in the extensive districts formerly under the charge of Almass Alee Khan. After noticing the ruinous consequences of that system, and the benefits to be expected from the change, recommended by the Governor-General, the Resident adverted particularly to the apprehension expressed by the Vizier of a breach of his engagements with the farmers of those districts being the consequence of the proposed change. On this point the Resident observed, that having originally remonstrated with his Excellency against those engagements before they were entered into with the farmers, having repeatedly and earnestly represented to his Excellency the ruinous consequences which they would produce, and the failure of his representations having occasioned the Governor-General's remonstrance on the subject, it followed that his Excellency's perseverance in the formation of those engagements, in opposition to the counsels of the British Government, was a violation of his engagements with that Government; and the Resident referred to his Excellency to decide which of the two considerations was most important, a departure from his engagements with the farmers, or a departure from his engagements with the Company. The former, he observed, if productive of loss to the farmers might easily be repaired without injury to his Excellency's reputation, whereas a breach of his engagements with the Company might be productive of the most ruinous effects, and an adherence to them must be beneficial in every respect.

76. In answer to that article of the Vizier's remarks which related to the dependants of the late Almass Alee Khan, the Resident adverted to his former representations on that subject, and to the orders which, in consequence of the failure of those representations, he had received from the Governor-General in Council to urge his Excellency's attention to them; and concluded his detailed observations on the subject by renewing the request he had formerly ineffectually preferred, that his Excellency would furnish him with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jān and of the several exemptions which that person pleaded, that the Resident might be enabled to form an accurate judgment on the case, and then to suggest to his Excellency what might appear to be most advisable for the recovery of the just dues of the State.

77. The Resident terminated his remarks on the Vizier's paper by noticing his omission of the subject of Tujummool Hoosein Khan's jagier, and after stating some remarks on that question, by earnestly requesting his Excellency to reinstate him in the jagier.

78. The Resident delivered to the Vizier the paper containing his replies, as above described, and subsequently transmitted to him drafts of a proclamation addressed

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addressed to the revenue officers, Zemindars, and peasantry of each district, and of instructions to the Ameens proposed to be deputed into each. The purport of the former was to the following effect:—A statement of the evils of the farming system, and a declaration of its perpetual abolition and the introduction of a system of assessment and collection, calculated to remedy the abuses and evils of the former; the deputation of Ameens for the purpose of investigating the assets and condition of the country, as preparatory to the establishment of the improved system, with a description of their duties, and a requisition to the persons addressed to attend the Ameens and furnish them with the necessary information and documents.

79. The instructions proposed for the Ameens consisted of six articles, the general substance of which it is proper to state, in order to shew the nature of the arrangement recommended by the Resident for the reform of the system of assessment and collection. They were prefaced by an exhortation to integrity and diligence, and an assurance that, in the event of the Ameen's able and upright discharge of the duties now committed to his charge, he should be appointed a Tehsildar of some Zillah with a suitable salary and establishment, and should never be dismissed without sufficient cause.

The first article of the instructions referred to the proclamation and prescribed the mode of giving it currency.

The second article related to the principal object of the duty of Ameens, that of ascertaining the real state and condition of the purgunnah committed to his charge; observing, that this could alone be accomplished by his obtaining possession of all the revenue papers having reference to preceding years, and a list of the papers so to be obtained was inserted under this article.

The third article contained an injunction to the Ameen to respect the rights of the Zemindars, and to make his arrangements with them as the persons naturally interested in the soil, in contradistinction to farmers, whose interests were unconnected with the internal prosperity of the country, and to investigate cases of disputed right to a zemindary, transmitting the documents on the subject for the decision of the Vizier.

The fourth article required the Ameen to inspect the engagements concluded by the farmers (under the general farming system) with the Zemindars and under-renters, and to enforce the just demands of the Aumils, agreeably to the cabooseleat and pottah, or engagement, and deed of lease, and intimated that it was particularly desirable that no just balances should remain after a certain specified date, when the collections of the current year were to cease.

The fifth article required the Ameen to proceed to visit every village and estate in the district committed to his charge, for the purpose of ascertaining the quantity and quality of the lands, the condition and character of the landholders and others, comparing their assets and means with the amount of the present jumma, and adopting various other specified measures with a view to the triennial settlement of the whole of the Vizier's dominions, which, as declared in this article, his Excellency had resolved to introduce from the commencement of the ensuing year, that is the middle of September 1811.

The sixth article described the rate of allowances to be granted to the Ameen during the continuance of his duty as such, which would, of course, terminate with the introduction of the new system, when, if his conduct had been correct, he would be appointed collector of a Zillah with a suitable salary.

80. After some intermediate correspondence with the Vizier, relative to that article of the Resident's replies, in which he had ascribed to the Vizier a breach of treaty, and which his Excellency earnestly desired the Resident to modify, a request with which the Resident so far complied as to alter the terms without departing from the substance of the charges, the Resident received from the Vizier a paper containing his answers to each point of the Resident's observations and propositions.

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81. The present report of the progress of this negotiation requires that we should state the substance of that paper, which the Resident, in his report to us, termed a truly extraordinary document.

82. The Vizier began by a very unsatisfactory explanation of the causes which had defeated the projected settlement of the districts of Purtaubgurh, &c., but of which it is unnecessary to state the details.

83. In reply to that article of the Resident's paper which proposed the division and subdivision of his Excellency's country into districts, and the appointment of an Ameen to each, the Vizier observed, most irrelatively, that in the month of March he had issued orders to two of his sons and "to the other officers, to search for and procure some upright and able candidates for the situation of Ameens, who should first be sent to those districts which the Resident considered in an unsettled state." That the draft of instructions which the Resident had prepared should undergo personal discussion, and when the terms should be adjusted the instructions should be delivered; but that the Resident must first detail to his Excellency the necessary qualifications of Ameens, in order that persons so qualified might be selected and appointed exclusively by his Excellency.

84. In answer to that part of the Resident's paper in which he stated the chief and ultimate duty of the Ameens to be to ascertain the new revenues and resources of the country, and described the mode of proceeding to be adopted by the Ameens with a view to that object, his Excellency merely stated that he should issue his orders to the Ameens agreeably to the Resident's suggestions, but recommended actual measurement of the lands in preference to the collection of revenue papers of each village for ten years back, which the Resident had proposed.

85. The Vizier entered into a defence of his own conduct and practice, in reply to the Resident's remark that the want of upright and able men to fill the office of Ameen was to be ascribed to the vicious system of his Excellency's administration, and then suggested a modification of the Resident's proposition of appointing the Ameens to be subsequently Tehsildars, by recommending the separation of those officers, or at least the nomination of the Ameens to be Tehsildars not in the districts where they had acted in the former capacity, but in some other.

86. In reply to the Resident's proposition relative to the future establishment of courts of justice, the Vizier explicitly and satisfactorily declared, that after the new system of assessment and administration of the revenue should have been carried into effect, an efficient police and a court of justice, as recommended, should be established.

87. With respect to the total change of system in the districts formerly under the management of Almass Alee Khan, the Vizier observed, that what the Governor-General had recommended should certainly be carried into effect: that it was, of course, his Excellency's particular desire that the population should encrease, that his subjects should be rendered happy and prosperous, that present and future loss should be guarded against, and that the revenues should annually encrease; and that if all those objects could be accomplished by the change of the present system, his Excellency had no objection to it.

87 A. The Vizier's reply to the Resident's remarks on his Excellency's imputed breach of treaty, by rejecting the counsels of the British Government, was in the following words: "I have not, on the present occasion, done any thing unprecedented or new, that you should have advised me to desist from it. What I have done was in perfect conformity with the long-established usage of the country, against which no Resident at this Court has ever hitherto remonstrated; and thanks be to God, that no bad effects have hitherto arisen from those measures, neither would any objection have been made in Calcutta to those measures if you had not written on the subject; but your representations have, of course, occasioned what has happened. It matters not. You will now consider me as intent on carrying the new system into execution."

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88. To the Resident's observations relative to the case of Mirza Jān, his Excellency replied by the extraordinary argument, that Mirza Jān and his property were the property of Almass Alee Khan, and the latter himself belonged to his Excellency, and that consequently Mirza Jān also was his Excellency's property, and the Resident had no right to interfere; adding, however, that his intention towards Mirza Jān should be communicated to the Resident thereafter.

89. In answer to the Resident's representation on the subject of Tujummool Hoosein Khan's jagier, his Excellency urged his disinclination to grant jagiers and his desire to abridge their number, observing, that as his intention was merely to preserve his authority over the jagier in question, and as the clear revenue would be paid to Tujummool Hoosein Khan, there was no reason why it should not be managed by one of his Excellency's Aumils.

90. The Resident acknowledged the receipt of the document of which the substance has been described, but stated merely some general observations regarding the extraordinary nature of it, referring to a personal conference the discussion of its details.

91. The Resident, in his despatch enclosing copies of the above-described documents, reported at length the tenor of his personal communication with the Vizier on the subject of that last mentioned. He represents himself first to have commented on the irregular form of that document, which it appeared had been sent without authentication and in a blank envelope, without address or superscription; and then, after alluding to the solemn appeal to his Excellency's justice and good faith contained in the Governor-General's letter, and to his Excellency's promise of deliberately discussing with the Resident the several points stated in that letter, to have called upon the Vizier to acknowledge or disavow the obligation imposed upon him by treaty, of carrying into effect a reform of his administration, and to declare whether or not, in his Excellency's own judgment, he had fulfilled, or even attempted to fulfil that obligation. If he had not, his Excellency was bound, he observed, to consider the present remonstrance of the Governor-General in Council as a solemn demand for the fulfilment of a positive obligation, by adopting the plan of reform recommended to him by the British Government, with whose counsels he had engaged to conform, or by suggesting and carrying into execution some other plan of his own, which should be equally calculated to answer the purposes of that obligation, namely, to provide for the security and happiness of his subjects, and to relieve the Company's Government from the extraordinary and disreputable burden of supporting by force of arms an unjust and oppressive administration.

92. The Resident then proceeded to comment on the manner in which his Excellency had met the Governor-General's propositions; observing, that his Excellency, instead of declaring his cordial acquiescence in the general plan of reform recommended to him by the British Government, and of manifesting that acquiescence by an immediate and cheerful assent to the measures which the Resident had suggested, had purposely omitted to notice a few of the most important of those measures to which no plausible objection could be formed, had made frivolous objections to others for the obvious purpose of protracting unimportant discussion and procrastinating the work of reform, had stated some extraordinary assertions, the inaccuracy of which was well known, and had evinced, by the whole tenor of the document in question, a resolution to evade at least, if not to resist, the salutary counsels of the Governor-General in Council, conveyed to him in the language of friendship and in the terms of existing treaties, which were equally binding on both, and a departure from which on one part, might exonerate the other from a responsibility essential to the existence of his Government and to the exercise of his Excellency's authority.

93. These, and further similar observations having made a considerable impression on his Excellency's mind, and having produced from his Excellency an assurance of his sincere intention to abide by his engagements with the Company,

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Company, as well as to withdraw from the document under discussion all such expressions and remarks as the Resident might now shew to be inconsistent with that assurance, the Resident proceeded to discuss the Vizier's several replies.

94. It is not necessary to notice particularly the Resident's observation on the first topic of the Vizier's paper, that which related to the failure of the project of settlement in the districts of Purtaubgurh, &c. It is sufficient to state, that the Resident deduced from the failure of all the various measures employed on that occasion, supported, too, by a large detachment of British troops, the existence of some radical evils in the system of his Excellency's administration, and the necessity of a total change in that system, in the manner suggested by the Governor-General.

95. On the next point, the appointment of Ameens, the Resident remarked his Excellency's total silence on the two important and indispensable preliminary measures which the Resident had originally suggested to him, namely, the division and subdivision of his dominions into districts, and the selection and appointment of Ameens with the Resident's advice and concurrence. He observed that, on the question of appointing the Ameens, his Excellency had merely referred, in general terms, to orders issued the preceding month to his sons: that his Excellency had further (apparently for no other purpose than procrastination) required the Resident to repeat to him in detail the qualifications of proper Ameens, although those qualifications were sufficiently described in the Governor-General's letter, and amply enlarged upon by the Resident in his replies to the Vizier's original remarks on that letter. That his Excellency had finally declared his desire of restricting the deputation of Ameens to a few particular districts which the Resident should consider to be in a state of disorder, forgetting that the Governor-General in Council had described the whole of his Excellency's dominions as labouring under a baneful system of assessment and collection, to which no remedy but a complete and radical change could be applied.

96. Under these circumstances, the Resident deemed it his duty to call upon his Excellency distinctly to declare, whether he declined or consented to the division and subdivision of his dominions in the manner suggested, and to the subsequent deputation of an Ameen to every district, giving previous information to the Resident of the characters and qualities of the Ameens, with the view of enabling him to judge of their fitness and capacity for the trust to be reposed in them.

97. To these two propositions his Excellency after some deliberation signified his assent, reserving only for future discussion the proposal of the Resident's being previously informed of the character and qualities of the Ameens, and of his being entitled to a voice in their nomination; which proposal, it appeared, his Excellency considered as inconsistent with the provisions of treaty, a point which the Resident combated, but finally left to future discussion.

98. The Resident's observations on the two succeeding topics of the Vizier's paper do not require particular notice. With regard to the next, of the establishments of courts of justice, the Resident expressed his satisfaction at the assurance which his Excellency had afforded on that subject, and stated, that he should be prepared in due season to submit to his Excellency such suggestions regarding it as the importance of the subject required.

99. The Resident then proceeded to advert to the Vizier's denial of the Resident's right to interpose his counsel and remonstrances respecting the management of the extensive lands formerly under charge of Almass Alee Khan, demonstrating, by reference to the words of existing engagements, the right of the British Government to interpose its advice "in all affairs connected with " the ordinary government of his Excellency's dominions and with the exercise " of his Excellency's established authority," and the confirmation and approval of the Resident's counsels and remonstrances on the subject in question, as expressed in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, deducing from his Excellency's absolute rejection of this authorized counsel, the imputation of a
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direct infraction of his engagements, which bound him to attend to the advice of the British Government. The Resident then referred to the practice of the Representatives at the Court of Lucknow during the time of the late Amf-ood-Dowlah, to prove that the species of interference of which his Excellency denied the right had ever been exercised, and pointing out the particular urgency and necessity of that interference with respect to the districts in question, and demonstrating it to be a case to which the provisions of the treaty respecting the offer and acceptance of advice were peculiarly applicable.

100. In answer to that part of the Vizier's paper which reproached the Resident with being the cause of the remonstrances and propositions his Excellency had lately received from the Governor-General, the Resident merely observed that this reproach could be considered in no other light than as a proof of the conscientious discharge of his duty to both States, in having faithfully reported his proceedings at his Excellency's Court, and that he felt persuaded of receiving from his Excellency's justice and candour, at some future period, the most ample credit for his motives in every stage of those proceedings and discussions, which had now excited his Excellency's reproach. The Vizier, in reply, offered to withdraw this article of his remarks altogether; an offer which, however, the Resident declined, with the exception of the particular words, "that you should have" advised me to desist from it," which the Resident desired might be expunged.

101. At the same conference the Resident pleaded in a very forcible manner the cause of Tujummool Hoosein Khan, and finally succeeded in obtaining his Excellency's unqualified consent to the restitution of the jagier.

102. At the conclusion of the conference, the Vizier requested the Resident to furnish him with a draft of the several alterations which he required in the other articles of his Excellency's paper. This was accordingly done, and the alterations proposed by the Resident substantially were: a declaration of his Excellency's concurrence in the division and subdivision of his country, and in the deputation of Ameens possessing, if possible, all the requisite qualities, to all the districts, his Excellency furnishing them with the instructions and proclamations proposed by the Resident, modified only in such manner as should be mutually agreed upon after consultation: that the rigorous measures hitherto adopted with respect to Mirza Jān should cease, and a statement of the just balances against him should be sent for the Resident's investigation.

103. The Vizier's reply to the Resident's paper of proposed alterations was far from being satisfactory. His Excellency signified his consent to take into consideration the draft of instructions to the Ameens proposed by the Resident, rejecting after discussion such parts as his Excellency might not approve. He consented, also, to a division of his country into districts, in the manner that might be determined by mutual consultation, and to the deputation of Ameens to all the districts; but his Excellency decidedly objected to the Resident's having any voice in the selection of them, on the ground of its being a supersession of authority.

104. The Vizier assented to the Resident's proposition relative to Mirza Jān, but insisted on retaining the assertion contained in his former paper, that Mirza Jān was his property, and that the Resident had no right to interfere in the case. The Vizier further retained his anterior observations relative to the justification of the resumption of the jagier of Tujummool Hoosein Khan, although he at the same time declared the restitution of it in compliance with the Governor-General's desire.

105. In consequence of the receipt of this unsatisfactory reply, the Resident obtained another conference with the Vizier; at which, after acknowledging that all the important measures which the Resident had suggested, under the instructions of the Governor-General in Council, had been assented to, with the exception of that which related to the Resident's participation in the selection of Ameens, the Resident remonstrated on his Excellency's persisting, contrary to promise, in retaining in his amended replies the whole of the exceptionable arguments to which the Resident had objected at the former conference.

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106. The Resident then repeated his former observations on those arguments, and the Vizier finally consented to withdraw them; expressing, however, his reluctance to abandon those which related to Mirza Jân, whom he persisted in considering as his slave and property, a position which the Resident combated with great force and justice.

107. The Resident then proceeded to the discussion of the only point remaining unsettled, namely, his Excellency's refusal to admit of the Resident's participation in the selection of Ameens. On this topic the Resident entered into great detail, conceiving it essential to the success of the projected reform, and to be a point of obligation involved in the provisions of the treaty.

108. The Vizier, however, continuing inflexible on this point, although he waved any replies to the Resident's arguments, the latter found it necessary to refrain from further urgency, and signified his intention of referring the question to our determination.

109. The Resident then submitted for his Excellency's consideration a few questions, proceeding on the supposition of his choice and appointment of Ameens without the Resident's previous knowledge or concurrence. Was it his Excellency's intention, the Resident enquired, not only to exclude him from a participation in the choice of the Ameens and collectors, but to keep him, as heretofore, in ignorance of the proceedings of those officers? Did his Excellency intend, as formerly, to convey to him detached and desultory papers and articles of intelligence transmitted by venal news-writers in the pay of his several Ameens, and to withhold from him every paper of importance or authentic document, on the ground that it had not or could not be prepared, or that his Excellency himself considered it as unsatisfactory? And did his Excellency continue to entertain the wish, or indulge the vain expectation of receiving the support of the British troops to the proceedings and demands of his Ameens and Tehsildars under the new system, as to those of his farmers of revenue under the old, without satisfying the Resident, or enabling him to satisfy himself, of the propriety and justice of those proceedings and demands? If such, the Resident observed, were his Excellency's designs, it was now his duty to undeceive him, and to caution him, in a manner the most solemn, against the fallacy of such expectations; adding, that the repeated and positive instructions of his Government precluded his compliance with any future requisition for the aid of the British troops, till entirely satisfied of the justice and expediency of the measures which those troops might be required to support.

110. The Resident, in his report of this conference, stated that the Vizier was visibly affected by the foregoing remarks, and that after some further conversation his Excellency took down in writing the terms of an agreement respecting the conduct of Ameens and Tehsildars, which he promised to insert as a qualification of his Excellency's rejection of the Resident's original proposal, declaring at the same time with earnestness, that it never was his intention to withhold from the Resident any information that he might desire, but that the conduct of his officers had frequently been such as to prevent his deriving or conveying satisfactory information of their proceedings.

111. This intention his Excellency carried into effect by the transmission of a paper of amended replies, the substance of which was, that all the proceedings of the Ameens, and copies of the several papers which they might transmit to his Excellency, should be explained and forwarded for the Resident's information, and that the Resident's opinion of those proceedings and papers, after investigation and discussion with his Excellency, should guide the continuation of the Ameens or their dismissal from their offices, and that copies of all engagements whatsoever which might be received or entered into by the Tehsildars should be furnished for the Resident's information. These were the points proposed by the Vizier, as qualifications to his Excellency's refusal to permit the Resident to have a voice in the selection and nomination of the Ameens.

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112. The first of those points the Resident admitted to be satisfactory ; but under the terms of the second, the Resident justly observed that he should possess no information regarding the proceedings of any of the Tehsildars until a commotion should have been excited in the country, and even then would only be apprized of the proceedings respecting such individual landholders, or others, as resisted the demands of the Tehsildars and were actually in a state of rebellion.

113. In consequence of this representation, the Vizier finally modified the last-mentioned article, by engaging that the papers transmitted by the Ameens which might be ultimately approved with the advice of the Resident, should be given to the Tehsildars, with strict orders to abide by them in forming the settlement of the districts, and after the conclusion of the settlement to transmit all the original engagements of the Zemindars and renters which they might grant, to his Excellency, for the purpose of being recorded, keeping copies for their own guidance, and for all payments of revenue to grant receipts, that so, if at any future period a Tehsildar represent to his Excellency the failure of Zemindars in their engagements, or their resistance to the authority of the Tehsildars requiring troops to coerce them, the several engagements of the Zemindars might be ready for the Resident's inspection ; so that, after satisfying himself of the rebellious conduct of the Zemindars, and their actual breach of their engagements, the Resident might take measures for their coercion and punishment.

114. The Resident's despatch from which the preceding report is taken will be found recorded as per margin.*

115. For the better comprehension of the result of these discussions, which as before observed we have stated with a view to shew the temper and disposition of the Vizier relatively to the proposed reform, it will be useful to insert in this place the Resident's original remarks and propositions and the answers of the Vizier, in the form in which they were finally modified.

Resident's Remarks and Propositions.

I have derived considerable satisfaction from the general tenor of your Excellency's remarks on the Right Honourable the Governor-General's letter, because they evince a conviction in your Excellency's mind of the importance of a complete and immediate reform of the system of assessment and realization of the revenue in your dominions, and a desire of obtaining information regarding the best practicable method of carrying that reform into effect.

As it is by no means my wish or intention to revive any former discussions of a disagreeable nature between us, or to suspend your Excellency's attention to the future important arrangements by any retrospect of the past, I shall pass over in silence the remark with which your Excellency has commenced on this occasion, observing merely, with a reference to the conduct of your officers in the districts of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, that the scheme of a triennial settlement for those districts, which was the first and most essential requisite

Vizier's final Replies.

With regard to what you have stated in the first of those answers, namely, that the scheme of a settlement for the districts of Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, which was the first and most essential requisite towards a beneficial arrangement, &c. The case is this :—that the causes of the delay in transmitting a perfect scheme of settlement for the districts in question have already been explained to you, and that the non-arrival of a perfect scheme can only be ascribed to some of those causes. In the scheme which I received from the Aumils it is written, that a correct statement of diminution and increase in the jumma would be afterwards furnished when the real assets were ascertained. I did not myself consider that scheme as satisfactory, and accordingly told you so at one of our personal interviews. A document, therefore, which was considered as incorrect by myself, to what purpose should I send it to you? With respect, again, to your observation of our not having received the jumma bundy of any one village or estate, if a perfect

* Consultations, 3d May ; vide page 154.

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requisite towards a just and beneficial arrangement for the future management of the districts, as repeatedly and earnestly suggested by me, and as often promised by your Excellency, has not even yet been produced; and that although both your Excellency and I have been frequently told by your Aumils, and Mohummud Ashruf in particular, that a moderate assessment has been made, and an advantageous settlement concluded or nearly concluded, of all the districts under his charge, neither your Excellency nor I have yet been informed of the jumma of any one estate or village in the country, nor has a single revenue paper, of any description whatever, been hitherto submitted by the Aumil, whose duty it unquestionably was to transmit copies of all the engagements of the Zemindars and vouchers of the statements in those engagements, for your Excellency's knowledge and approbation, before the settlements were concluded.

In short, I consider the districts of Purtaubgurh and Sultanpore, notwithstanding all that we have heard from Mohummud Ashruf and the Aumils, to be at this moment, and after all the trouble which they have occasioned to both your Excellency and me, with the exception of the reduction of fortresses, which we owe entirely to the British troops, in a condition as far removed from good order and advantageous settlement as they were in the time of Hoolas Sing. But the measures by which the future good order of not these districts alone, but of the whole of your Excellency's dominions, is to be restored and permanently established, are now in our joint contemplation, and to the delineation of those measures I shall therefore proceed immediately, and shall submit them for your Excellency's consideration, in the form of answers to your remarks.

Your Excellency, in the second of those remarks, has declared your acquiescence in my original proposal, that Ameens should be deputed to those districts, &c.

Before proceeding, however, on the present occasion, to the adoption of this measure, let us first consider to what places the Ameens shall be deputed, and what duties they shall be required to perform. It appears to me to be indispensable that a division of your

fect scheme of the settlement had arrived, the jummaundy would have doubtless been contained in it; and with regard to your remark, that notwithstanding Mohummud Ashruf's and the other Aumil's representations, &c. every paper conveying information of the conclusion, or approaching conclusion of the settlement of those districts which I have received, copies of them have invariably been sent to you, because it is not my wish or desire to conceal any thing from you.

In the second article you have stated that it is first necessary to consider to what places the Ameens shall be deputed, &c.

On the 18th of Suffer 1226 (15th March 1811) I issued orders to my beloved sons, Shums-ood-Dowlah and Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, and to the other officers of my Government, to search for and procure some upright and able candidates for the situation of Ameens. The

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your Excellency's dominions into four or five Zillahs, or general departments of proper extent, and then a subdivision of those Zillahs into districts, yielding an annual revenue of from one to three lacs of rupees each district, be determined on, and carried into execution with the least practicable delay. Then let an upright and intelligent Ameen be selected for each of those districts; and when your Excellency shall have made the selection, be pleased to inform me of the names and characters, as far as known to you, of the persons thus to be employed in offices of so high importance, that I also may endeavour to investigate their characters, and submit my opinion for your consideration; after which let them be ordered to proceed to their districts respectively, under written instructions for their guidance, a draft of which I shall have the honour of submitting for your approval.

The draft of instructions to the Ameens which you have furnished shall be attentively perused. Such parts as I may not approve after consulting with you shall be withdrawn from it, and final instructions shall then be prepared and delivered to the Ameens; and such division and subdivision of my dominions as you shall suggest, after discussion between us, shall be carried into immediate effect, under my authority and by my officers: and for this purpose Raze-Dya-Krishen has already been summoned to the Presence, that the situation and extent of the several Zillahs and muhāls, and the amount of the jumma of each, may be ascertained from the records in his possession; after which the division and subdivision shall take place, and Ameens possessing the qualities described in the Governor-General's letter shall be deputed by me to all the muhāls. In short, the Ameens must be chosen and appointed by me, and the whole system must be established under my authority and by my officers, with your advice. But the mode which you have suggested for the appointment of Ameens cannot be acceded to by me; because, in this case, it would be necessary that after selecting proper persons for the office, I should write to you to inform me who should be appointed and who should not be appointed. You will naturally approve some and reject others, and I should be obliged to comply with your suggestions on this point. Hence it is obvious, that the selection and appointment or rejection of the Ameens would proceed under your authority, and that I should have no further power or authority in the matter, but merely those of informing you and requiring your consent; and this circumstance being generally known, not one of the Ameens would be obedient to my orders or regard my authority. I can never, therefore, consent to the appointment of Ameens in a manner which would diminish my own authority; more particularly, as it is stipulated in the concluding part of the seventeenth article of the treaty concluded with the British Government in the time of Sir John Shore, that "I shall possess full authority over my household affairs, hereditary dominions, my troops and my subjects;" and in the sixth article of the Treaty of Cession, it is stated, that the Honourable the East-India Company thereby "guarantee

“ guarantee to me, my heirs, and suc-
 cessors, the possession of the terri-
 tories which will remain after the
 territorial cession, together with the
 exercise of mine and their authority
 within the said dominions; and I en-
 gage always to advise with, and act
 in conformity to, the counsel of the
 officers of the said Honourable Com-
 pany.”

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The Ameens having proceeded to their respective districts, all papers and documents relative to the scheme of a settlement, and of every other nature whatever which they may transmit to the Presence, shall be submitted to your investigation, and copies of them shall be furnished for that purpose; after which, if the papers or proceedings of any Ameen shall appear to you to be improper, and you satisfy me of the impropriety of his proceedings, that Ameen shall be immediately dismissed, and another person shall be selected by me to succeed him. But if the proceedings and papers of the Ameen shall be approved, he shall continue in employment and be appointed to some other district.

Further, the papers transmitted by those Ameens which may be finally approved with your advice, shall be given to the Tehsildars, with strict orders to abide by them in forming the settlement of the districts, and after the settlement is concluded, to transmit all the original engagements of the Malgoozars, such as *ekrarnamah*, *ca-booleat*, *mālzaminee*, and *hazirzaminee*, with copies of the *pottahs* which they grant to the Presence, for the purpose of being recorded, keeping copies for their own guidance, and for all payments of revenue which are made, to grant *dakhelahs* or receipts under their seals, that so, if at any future period a Tehsildar represent to the Presence the failure of Zemindars in their engagements, or resistance to the authority of the Tehsildars, requiring troops to coerce them, the several engagements of the Zemindars, which will then be on the records of the Government, may be ready for your inspection, and copies of them, with copies of the *dakhelahs*, shall accordingly be sent for your perusal, that after satisfying yourself of the rebellious conduct of the Zemindars, and their actual breach of their engagements, you may take measures for their coercion and punishment.

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In the third article your Excellency has doubted the practicability of ascertaining the true revenue and resources of your country, and has enquired how this is to be done, &c.

The investigation and ascertainment of the revenue form the grand and sole object, and will prove to be the happy result of the deputation of Ameens, as I have suggested. The duty of those Ameens, as prescribed by the instructions which I shall submit, will be to assemble and conciliate, in the first instance, the Chowdries, Canoongoes, and Putwarries of the several districts under their charge, and then to require from those officers the whole of the revenue papers of every village distinctly, for a period of ten years, with the wasilbaukee accounts of the last and preceding years, and the scheme or register of the settlement for the year now drawing to a close. Those papers, after the minutest investigation which may be practicable, to be transmitted under the signature of the revenue officers, to the Presence, when your Excellency and I shall consider them, and be enabled to form an accurate judgment of the real resources and assets of every district in your dominions.

In the fourth article your Excellency has desired me to inform you where intelligent and upright men are to be found.

The absence or deficiency of such men as your Excellency has described is, in my opinion, alone to be attributed to the unhappy system of the administration which has long prevailed in your dominions, to the instability of employment under your Government, and to the danger of personal dishonour as well as confiscation of property which attends even temporary employment. When these obstacles shall be happily removed by the improved system of your administration, your Excellency will find many able and upright natives desirous of employment in your service.

In the provinces which your Excellency ceded to the Honourable Company, a majority, if not the whole, of the native officers employed by the British Government as Tehsildars, &c., were the subjects of your Excellency's dominions, yet they, having entire confidence in the Government, performed their duties with diligence, fidelity, and

zeal,

In the third answer you have stated that the duty of those Ameens will be to require from the Chowdries, Canoongoes, and Putwarries, the whole of the revenue papers, &c.

I shall issue my orders to the Ameens agreeably to what you have suggested; but I recommend that this measure be carried into effect by actual measurement of the cultivated and waste lands, and of lands capable of being cultivated; in which case the exact measurement of the lands, as well as the amount of the jumma will be ascertained, and the boundaries of villages will also be fixed, so as to preclude future claims or disputes among the Zemindars on questions of unsettled boundary.

In the fourth answer you have stated, that the deficiency of men of abilities is, in your opinion, alone to be attributed to the present system of the administration in my dominions, to the instability of employment under my Government, and to the danger of personal dishonour, &c.

I have never broken my engagements nor retracted my promise in any way so as to create want of confidence in the people; on the contrary, many of the Aumils have broken their engagements with my Government, and I have knowingly put up with the loss and released them from confinement. With regard to those who are still confined, I have frequently required them, in the first instance, to liquidate their arrears, agreeably to the statements prepared by my officers, and afterwards to their own statements, giving credit for all their claims, nay, for more than they could justly require; yet, destitute of shame as well as honesty, they still retain the just dues of the Sirkar.

You suggest that such Ameens as perform their duties properly shall hereafter be appointed Tehsildars: but, in this

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zeal, to the advantage and satisfaction of their employers. On the same principle, under an improved system of administration for your Excellency's dominions, your Excellency may be perfectly assured that many able and upright men will be found to fill those offices under your Government, and I will cheerfully take it upon myself to procure as many as may be necessary. The proofs of their capacity and integrity, if possessing those qualifications, will hereafter fully appear upon an examination of the documents which they transmit from their districts, respectively, to the Presence; and those only should, of course, be appointed Tehsildars whose conduct as Ameens should be approved of.

In the fifth article your Excellency desires to be informed of the means of ascertaining the real state of the muhāls.

The real condition of the country will, I doubt not, be fully ascertained by the appointment of Ameens as I have suggested, and by their exertions, in the manner pointed out in my answer to the third article, and in obedience to the instructions which I shall furnish.

Your Excellency has stated in the sixth article, that when, with my advice, &c.

The intention which your Excellency has declared in this article is highly commendable; but the views of the British Government, as hinted at in the passage of the Governor-General's letter, to which your Excellency has here referred, and detailed in his Lordship's instructions to me, are still more extensive in their nature, and far more beneficial in their consequences, than your Excellency would appear to have conceived. When a satisfactory settlement of your Excellency's land revenue shall be concluded, and when the appointment of capable Tehsildars in all the districts shall have taken place, the establishment of an efficient police and of a court of justice in each Zillah will be earnestly recommended to your Excellency, as a measure manifestly indispensable to give complete effect to the salutary arrangements which precede, so that a separation and distinction of the department of collection of revenue in all its branches, from that of the dispensation of civil and criminal

this case, if the Ameens be previously informed that after ascertaining the jumma of their Elakas (districts), and transmitting the revenue papers for ten years with the wasilbaukee accounts of the revenue, they will be appointed to the office of Tehsildar it is probable that, for their own future advantage, they will knowingly lower the jumma and state less than the real amount. I therefore think it would be more advisable to separate the two offices entirely; or, at all events, that no Ameen should be appointed Tehsildar in the Zillah in which he may have acted as Ameen. In this latter mode, the Ameens who are found to be deserving may still be rewarded, and the opportunity for fraud may be prevented.

No answer to this article on the part of the Vizier.

In the sixth answer you have stated, that the views of the British Government, as hinted at in the Governor-General's letter to my address, &c.

After the new system of assessment and administration of the revenue shall be carried into effect, an efficient police and a court of justice, as recommended by the Governor-General and by you, shall also be established by my orders.

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nal justice throughout the country, may take place, that the subjects of your Excellency's Government at large may have the gates of justice and redress of grievances open to them at all times, that the hand of oppression or extortion in the Aumils and collectors of revenue against the landholders and peasantry may be restrained, that the just demands of those Aumils and collectors against the landholders and peasantry may be enforced, if necessary, by the regular process of the law, and the revenues of the Government may thus be duly realized, that the lives and property of the subjects may be protected, and the detection and punishment of thieves and plunderers may be insured.

Your Excellency has stated in the seventh article of your remarks, that your measures with a reference to those districts have been in conformity with the established usage of the country, &c.

Although I have not heard that serious disturbances do actually exist in any other of those muhāls than Jugdeespore, yet the ruinous consequences of the present system of farming are equally to be apprehended in all of them while that system shall prevail; and on this principle it is, that a total change of the system has been so earnestly recommended to your Excellency by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, as absolutely necessary and indispensable to remedy the evils which exist. That the suggested reform will be productive of those benefits, will serve to increase your Excellency's reputation, and greatly tend to the increase of your revenue as well as to the welfare and prosperity of your subjects, cannot reasonably be doubted; and with regard to your Excellency's apprehension of a breach of your engagements with your farmers, it must be sufficient for me to remark, that having originally remonstrated against those engagements before they were entered into by the farmers, having repeatedly and earnestly represented to your Excellency the ruinous consequences which they would produce, and the failure of my representations having occasioned the Governor-General's remonstrances on the subject, it follows that your Excellency's consignment of those muhāls under the engagements which are now referred to was in direct opposition to my

In answer to the seventh article, you have stated, that to remedy the evils which at present exist, a total change of the system has been earnestly recommended to me by the Governor-General, &c.

What the Governor-General has recommended shall certainly be carried into effect. It is, of course, my particular desire that the population of the country be increased, the happiness and prosperity of my subjects be provided for, that present or future loss of revenue to the Sirkar be effectually guarded against, and that the revenues should yearly increase. If those objects can be accomplished by the change of the present system it is well, and I have no objection whatever.

With regard to what you have stated, that my apprehension of a breach of my engagements, &c.

Praise be to God, that as yet no breach of engagements has ever been committed by me, nor can any take place hereafter.

I have not, on the present occasion, done any thing unprecedented or new. What I have done was in perfect conformity with the long-established usage of the country, against which no Resident at this Court had ever hitherto remonstrated, and thanks be to God that no bad effects have hitherto arisen from those measures; neither would any objection have been made in Calcutta to those measures if you had not written on the subject; but your representations have, of course, occasioned what has happened. It matters not. You will now consider me as intent on carrying the new system into execution.

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my advice and to the counsels of the British Government, and consequently that your Excellency's adherence to those engagements, or refusal to comply with my suggestions of reform on the ground of them, would necessarily now imply (which God forbid) a departure from your engagements with our Government.

Under these circumstances, I leave it to your Excellency to judge which of the two considerations is the most important. A departure from engagements with those farmers, which were entered into contrary to my advice, or in other words, to the terms of your engagements with the Company, if productive of loss to the farmers may very easily be repaired without injury to your Excellency's reputation; whereas a breach of your engagements with the Company may be productive of the most ruinous effects, and an adherence to those engagements must be beneficial in every point of view.

Your Excellency has stated in the eighth article, that as the Governor-General has transmitted particular instructions, &c.

The Right Honourable the Governor-General has left little for me to add to his own earnest intercession in behalf of the dependants of Almass.

Your Excellency cannot but be aware of the nature of my original instructions on this subject, which were issued on the death of Almass. In pursuance of those instructions, I have repeatedly and on various occasions had the honour of addressing your Excellency in favour of many of the dependants of Almass, more particularly after the death of Rehmut Alea Khan, in favour of his women, and after the dismissal of Khanazad Khan (Mirza Jān), on the subject of the adjustment of his accounts and recovery of his demands from subordinate Aumils. Your Excellency having been pleased to inform me on one of the occasions in question, and in answer to my earnest representation, that I had nothing whatever to do with the affairs or accounts of Mirza Jān, nor any title to address you in his behalf, it became my duty to report this discussion to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, who has been pleased to notice it in his Lordship's letter to your Excellency's

In the eighth article you have requested me to furnish you with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jān and of the several exemptions which he pleads, &c.

In compliance with the wishes of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, which it is my duty and my inclination to attend to, the troopers and others placed over Khanazad Khan have been withdrawn, and two Chuprassies only are over him. A statement of the just balances against him shall be sent for your investigation.

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cellency's address, and not only to approve my former representations on the subject, but to direct that the discussion be now renewed, under the express sanction of his authority, and be carried on to a satisfactory conclusion, by the equitable adjustment of the balances which are claimed from this unfortunate Aumil, so as to encrease your Excellency's reputation.

You will, I trust, do me the justice to believe, that I am by no means desirous of conducing to your Excellency's loss in the adjustment of accounts with your Aumils; and my recovery, on a former occasion, by your Excellency's particular desire, of the balances which were due by Almass, is a proof of the sincerity of this assurance. I therefore take the liberty of suggesting, that your Excellency, as on the former occasion, will now also be pleased to furnish me with a statement of the demands against Mirza Jān, and of the several exemptions which he pleads, that I may be enabled to form an accurate judgment on the case, and then to suggest to your Excellency what may appear to be most advisable for the recovery of the just dues of the Sirkar. Your Excellency may be fully assured, that after inspecting the documents which you may send to me and ascertaining the just amount of your demands, I shall be ready to support those demands with all the influence of my authority; and that, in the case of Mirza Jān's refusal to discharge them, I shall myself submit to your Excellency the justice and expediency of his renewed and still more rigorous confinement.

The foregoing are my detailed observations in answer to your Excellency's remarks on the subject of the Governor-General's letter. The concluding paragraph of that letter, however, which relates to Tujumool Hoosein Khan's jagier, having been passed over by your Excellency in silence, and I having in consequence, at our last personal interview, not only submitted my own sentiments on the subject, but also conveyed to you, in explicit though delicate terms, the sentiments of surprise and concern with which the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council had heard of the violation of rights considered as under the guarantee of his Government,

Although no injury nor loss could, in my opinion, arise to Tujumool Hoosein Khan from committing the management of his jagier to an Aumil of my selection, yet, in compliance with the Governor-General's desire, the jagier shall be restored to the Khan.

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ment, I naturally expected as the result of those communications, that your Excellency would have ordered Tujummool Hoosein Khan to resume the management of his jagier. Disappointed in this expectation, I now most earnestly request that, from a consideration of the extraordinary claims of this family to the favour of both States, your Excellency will be pleased, without any further delay, to reinstate Tujummool Hoosein Khan in the unmolested possession of his jagier, as an act of justice on the part of your Excellency, which cannot fail to be gratifying to the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council in the highest possible degree.

116. In reply to the Resident's report of his proceedings, he received the commendation due to the zeal, judgment, and ability which he had certainly displayed in conducting these discussions; but he was informed, that the satisfaction we derived from the result of the negotiation, as far as it had hitherto proceeded, was qualified by the reflection that the Vizier's acquiescence in the main points of the proposed arrangement must be ascribed more to the energy and firmness with which the Resident had urged them, than to a cordial admission on the part of his Excellency of the expediency of the suggested measures and to a sincere desire to carry them into effect. With regard to the specific measures recommended by the Resident, it was observed to him that we considered them to be generally judicious, and the most effectual that could be devised under the disadvantages arising from the inherent vices and defects of his Excellency's Government. That on one point alone we entertained considerable doubt; not, however, on the abstract ground of expediency, but upon that of public faith, as affected by a resumption of the farms before the expiration of the leases, and with or without the consent of the farmers.* That we were not entirely satisfied of the argument with which the Resident met the Vizier's objection, founded on that very ground; because, admitting even the constructive violation of his engagements with the Company, which the Resident had maintained,† it could not be considered to affect the validity of a contract between the Vizier and his farmers, and that we therefore recommended, in all practicable cases, a compromise with the farmers, but in none a compulsory resumption of the farms.

117. On the only essential article of the Resident's propositions to which the Vizier had ultimately withholden his consent, namely, the Resident's participation in the selection and appointment of Ameens, it was observed to him, that whatever might be our opinion with regard to the importance of this participation, we approved his having yielded the point; first, because some doubt might be entertained of the right of the British Government to insist upon having a voice in the appointment of the Vizier's officers, even for the execution of measures prosecuted under the influence of its counsels; and secondly, because the object would, in some degree, be obtained by the compromise; to which his Excellency had assented. The Chief Secretary's letter conveying the above, and some additional remarks, will be found recorded as per margin.‡

118. We now proceed to report the substance of the Resident's communication of the further progress of his negotiations, from which we had the mortification to find our opinion of the Vizier's real reluctance to the introduction of any effectual reform into the system of his administration practically confirmed.

119. It

* Vide seventy-fifth paragraph of this despatch.

† Ibid.

‡ Vide one hundred and thirteenth paragraph of this despatch.

§ Consultations, 3d May, vide page 184.

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119. It is not necessary to follow the further argumentative correspondence between the Vizier and the Resident with the detail which appeared expedient in reporting the discussions antecedent to his Excellency's acquiescence in the proposed plan of reform. It will be sufficient to state, in general terms, the nature of the objections which the Vizier now brought forward against the prosecution of the very measures to which his Excellency had given his positive assent.

120. He stated his conviction of the impracticability of ascertaining the assets and resources of his country by the means suggested by the Resident, and at all events the impossibility of inspecting and deciding on the voluminous documents which, preparatory to that object, the Ameens were to be instructed to transmit to Lucknow. He expressed his apprehension, that the operation of the measures in question would throw into disorder the districts where at present no disorder existed, and where the revenues were collected with regularity. That this effect would be produced by the deputation of Ameens, because (as his Excellency conceived) their authority would supersede that of the Aumils. He alleged that the introduction of the new system would not secure the accomplishment of one of his principal objects, that of preventing the necessity for the frequent employment of the Company's troops; and maintained, that in the districts subject to Mehdee Alee Khan (*viz.* Khyrabad and Mohumdie, the northern quarter of the Vizier's dominions), in the districts lately farmed by Mirza Jân, and in the district of Baraiteh, and other places where no disorders existed, and where the rents were regularly paid, there was no occasion whatever for changing the present system. That the flourishing state of those districts implied that the peasantry were perfectly satisfied with it, and that a change would only be productive of loss to his Government. His Excellency, on these grounds, proposed that the new system should for the present be introduced merely for trial into some one district which might be considered as in the greatest disorder; and if the result of this experiment should prove satisfactory, it could be introduced into the whole.

121. The Vizier, in support of what he had stated regarding the practical difficulty of carrying into effect the measures proposed by the Resident, transmitted to him a representation, signed by six of the selected Ameens to whom his Excellency had shewn a copy of their proposed instructions, which representation referred article by article to the draft of instructions, specifying such of the duties as the Ameens would engage to perform and such of the revenue papers as they would be able to furnish, and stating the impracticability of performing the other required duties and of furnishing the remaining documents. But with regard to this transaction the Resident stated the following singular facts, namely, that from two of those six persons who were formerly in his employment while agent to the Governor-General in Bundelcund, the Resident received information that they had been furnished, by the Vizier's orders, with drafts of the above-mentioned representations, which they were required to seal and present to his Excellency under pain of his displeasure.

122. The Resident met the objections stated by the Vizier by remarks and explanations which were certainly of a nature to satisfy his Excellency's doubts and apprehensions, if such were really entertained by him, or if he had been sincerely desirous of promoting the system of reform; but the following passages of his Excellency's reply to the Resident's arguments sufficiently demonstrate his total disinclination to the introduction of any change.

123. To an observation of the Resident's, that his Excellency's cordial concurrence in the propriety of the proposed measures, and his sincere resolution of carrying them into complete effect, was all that could possibly be required to ensure advantage and success, the Vizier replied as follows: "The case is this: that as, immediately on the introduction of the new system, the present settlement of the country must be entirely subverted and no part of it can remain, and consequently the failure of the new system, or the delay or impossibility of carrying it into complete effect, must be productive of certain loss and injury to me, it follows that a want of attention or diligence on my part to give effect to the system in question cannot be supposed. But with regard
"to

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“ to a system of administration, the adoption and execution of which are extremely difficult and impracticable, my attention and diligence must, of course, be totally unavailing. If, on the other hand, you will be pleased to suggest such a plan for the introduction and exercise of the system as shall be conformable to the terms of the treaty and compatible with the perfect exercise of my independent authority, so that no injury nor falling off, the most minute, in my authority can be occasioned, nor any, the smallest, loss of revenue from whatever cause can arise, and you satisfy me as to all those particulars, how then can I refuse to comply with and adopt your suggestions ?”

124. Again, in answer to an observation of the Resident, that the new system of assessment was much milder than the former, and tended evidently to the comfort and happiness of the Ryots and to the ease and security of the landholders, the Vizier stated as follows: “ Although the new system appear milder to you, and though it be also my wish that this system should be successfully administered, yet the fact is, that the Talookadars and the whole of the Zemindars in my dominions have long been in the habit of concealing and withholding the real assets of their lands; and the new system being calculated to bring those practices to light and to expose the real capability of each particular estate, it is impossible, in my judgment, to expect that this system should be agreeable to them; and, on the contrary, I am greatly apprehensive that its introduction will cause the Zemindars to retire, nor can we possibly expect that it will be established in the manner we wish, since it has not yet been properly carried into effect in the Honourable Company’s Ceded and Conquered Provinces, although upwards of ten years have elapsed since its first introduction into those provinces. Of what avail, therefore, will be my cordial concurrence in a business which it is impossible or extremely difficult to accomplish ?”

125. It is worthy of remark as a singular instance of inconstancy in his Excellency’s professions, that the preceding observations were communicated to the Resident only five days after his receipt of a paper in which his Excellency desires him to “ rest assured that he had no hesitation whatever as to the introduction of the system recommended, and that, on the contrary, his Excellency was zealously employed in putting it into a train of execution.”

126. In the course of these discussions, which were conducted verbally as well as by correspondence, and embraced a great variety of subordinate points, and among others a modification of the Resident’s proposed instructions to the Ameens, the Resident properly intimated to the Vizier, that any further alteration or correspondence regarding the excuses, whether valid or frivolous, alleged by the Ameens, could tend only to procrastinate the introduction of the salutary system of reform recommended by the Governor-General in Council; that not one of those excuses, even admitting their validity, was of a nature to preclude the introduction of that system or to impede its progress, in the manner which the British Government desired, namely, to the immediate improvement of the condition of his Excellency’s landholders and peasantry, and to the consequent advantage of the State, as well as to the future increase of its revenue; and on these and other grounds, the Resident again earnestly recommended to his Excellency to dispatch the Ameens into every district of his dominions without further delay, delivering to them, however, the proclamations and instructions in the terms of the Resident’s original drafts.

127. The Resident observed, that a perpetual, or even a decennial settlement of the revenue, which would require a minute investigation to ascertain the real assets of the land, had not been recommended to his Excellency; that neither was it advisable for the present; that, on the contrary, a triennial settlement at a moderate rate of assessment, for the purpose of giving confidence to the Zemindars and peasantry and encouraging the cultivation of the soil, was all that had been suggested; and that, for this beneficial purpose, the duties which the six Ameens had engaged for (in the representation alluded to in the one hundred and twenty-first paragraph), and the documents which they had promised to furnish, if executed and prepared with fidelity and zeal, in the spirit of the proposed instructions, by all the officers whom his Excellency

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lency might appoint, would be amply sufficient; and that a triennial settlement, proceeding out of the labours of the Amesna, if concluded agreeably to the Resident's suggestions, would fully answer the object proposed by the introduction of the new system in its commencement.

128. The Resident's letter enclosing the correspondence, of which we have briefly stated the substance, contained a detailed and a satisfactory explanation, on that point, of his proceedings, which had attracted our particular notice, namely, his supposed suggestion relative to the resumption of farms before the expiration of the leases or without the consent of the farmers. It appeared, indeed, from the result of the Resident's enquiries, instituted after his receipt of our remarks on the point in question, that all the leases in the Vizier's dominions, with the exception of those of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, which had three years to run, and a few other inconsiderable districts under charge of Mehdee Ale Khan, would actually expire at the close of the current year; and with regard to those which formed exceptions, the Resident deemed it his duty, in consequence of our remarks, to signify to the Vizier that the introduction of the new system of assessment into those particular districts, although expedient in the highest degree on general grounds, and for the sake of uniformity in his Excellency's administration, ought not to take effect but by compromise with the farmer, which compromise his Excellency promised to endeavour to settle with Mehdee Ale Khan.

129. The Resident's despatch above referred to will be found recorded as per margin*.

130. From all that had now passed, it was evident, in our opinion, that the Vizier, while he admitted the necessity of a reform, because he could neither deny the facts, nor resist the arguments on which that necessity was founded, and while he acknowledged the obligation imposed on him by treaty of executing such reform at the suggestion and with the advice of the British Government, did not desire that it should take effect; and that, under the influence of this disposition, his efforts were employed to render the proposed system abortive, by means consistent with an ostensible solicitude to promote the success of it.

131. We could not but apprehend that the inclination of his Excellency's mind would lead him, and his unlimited means of clandestine influence and control would enable him, to realize all the difficulties and impediments which he had represented as opposing the practicability of the meditated plan of reform, but which do not really belong to it: that he would then be disposed to triumph in the fulfilment of his predictions, to charge the British Government, as in fact he actually had charged it, with the pursuit of a chimerical system of theoretical improvement, tending only to produce confusion and loss of revenue, and to deduce from its failure the practical superiority of that mode of assessment and collection, which having been established from distant times, was, however defective, best adapted to the habits and genius of the people, and best calculated to realize the resources of the country.

132. In truth, those enlarged principles of polity which embrace a consideration for the comfort and happiness of the people, which provide for the security of the rights and property of the subjects of the realm, for their protection against the abuses of power, for the control of injustice and oppression, which reject the allurements of immediate pecuniary advantage in favour of the more distant but solid benefits arising from the purity of the administration and the general prosperity of the country, are foreign to the character of the Vizier, and adverse to the natural propensities of his mind and disposition. From the tenor of the Resident's reports, these propensities appeared to be too firmly established to admit of the expectation which Government was willing originally to indulge, that they might be made to yield to the force of argument and reason, addressed to an understanding certainly of no ordinary class, and supported by all the influence of the British power, the stipulations of treaty, and the present Resident's zealous and able agency.

133. We

* Consultations, 21st June, vide page 191.

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133. We directed those observations to be stated to the Resident in replying to his last mentioned despatch, intimating to him, at the same time, that the object of stating them was not to discourage the continuance of his efforts, but partly to afford him the satisfaction of knowing that we were fully aware of the difficulties which opposed them, and would not be disposed to ascribe their too-probable failure to any defect of ability or exertion on his part, and partly to place him on his guard against those arts, by which the just and benevolent intentions of the British Government, in urging the reform, might be converted into the charge of having occasioned a material defalcation of his Excellency's revenues, and involved his country in confusion, by effecting the subversion of a long-established system of assessment and collection, without substituting another, either efficient in its operation or adequate to the purposes for which it was proposed. While he persevered in his endeavours, therefore, to accomplish, at least, a partial reform of the Vizier's administration, the Resident was instructed to be careful not to suffer the effects of his Excellency's open or clandestine obstruction to be charged upon the inefficacy of the system itself, as recommended to his adoption. These instructions, which were dated the 21st June, will be found recorded as per margin.*

134. In his next despatch the Resident reported the details of a conference with the Vizier to which he had alluded in his preceding letter. On that occasion the Resident answered categorically, and with much force and justice, every point of the Vizier's objections, doubts, and apprehensions; previously noticing, however, his Excellency's total silence on those points at the time when he consented to all the fundamental articles of the Resident's propositions, and the consequent inadmissibility of the arguments now employed by the Vizier, in a form inconsistent with his previous unqualified assent: an assent which, with reference to the positive obligations of treaty to establish an improved system of administration, became as binding as the treaty itself, and to which therefore the Resident observed he had a right to insist on his Excellency's adherence. For the details of this discussion we refer your Honourable Court to the Resident's despatch recorded as per margin.†

135. Having refuted all the grounds on which his Excellency founded either his avowed disinclination to fulfil the engagements to which he had consented on the subject of the reform, or the pleas under which he evidently sought to evade the execution of them by procrastination, and having drawn from his Excellency a repeated recognition of the obligation of those engagements, the Resident proceeded to recapitulate each article for his Excellency's reconsideration, connecting each in its turn with one of the four fundamental principles of reform stated in the Governor-General in Council's instructions of the 28th December 1810, viz.:—First, A division and subdivision of his Excellency's dominions into Zillahs and muhāls, with a view to facilitate the adoption of all the subsequent arrangements. This preliminary measure his Excellency declared to be totally unobjectionable as far as it was practicable, and offered to send his Dewan to the Resident for the purpose of concluding that arrangement. Secondly, The deputation of Ameens to all the muhāls, to investigate the state of the country and to collect revenue documents, with a view to the moderate assessment of the lands. To the immediate and universal adoption of this measure his Excellency opposed, as before, his apprehension of general disorder in the country by the supersession of all his officers at once, and also his engagements with some farmers who deserved well of his Government, and whose districts he alleged were in excellent order.

136. This last objection led to a discussion, in the course of which his Excellency admitted that almost the whole of the leases were for a single year only, and mentioned the death of the farmer of Baraitch, the farm of which district, therefore, although it had been granted for a term of years, was resumable. The districts of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, under Mehdee Alee Khan, he stated, were also farmed for a term of years, as before noticed.

137. Th

* Consultations, 21st June, vide page 211.

† Consultations, 5th July, vide page 212.

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137. The Resident gathered from his Excellency's further remarks, that a moiety, if not more, of his Excellency's dominions was already under the management of amānee Aumils, or officers corresponding in some degree in their functions with those employed by the British Government in similar trusts; and this circumstance suggested a proposal which the Resident was about to make for the removal of the Vizier's apprehensions, when he interrupted the Resident by stating it himself, namely, that the investigation and collection of revenue papers should be committed to the officers already employed in those districts, under the instructions which the Resident had suggested for the Ameens, and with the further benefit of the proclamation in the Vizier's amended terms. By this arrangement his Excellency admitted that a number of his apprehensions would be removed; and it was agreed that this proposal should be committed to writing and maturely considered by his Excellency, who promised to signify his determination upon it in the course of a few days.

138. The Resident then proceeded to state the third and fourth articles of agreement, viz., a provision for a triennial settlement with the landholders, &c. at a moderate rate of assessment under a gradation of engagements for that period to be guaranteed by the State, and ultimately the establishment of a court of justice and efficient police in each Zillah, when the settlement of the revenue should be concluded. To both these articles his Excellency signified his implicit adherence; and the conference concluded with a promise, on the part of the Resident, to submit the heads of it to his Excellency on the same or the ensuing day.

139. This was accordingly done, and that document will be found on record as noted in the margin.* His Excellency, in his reply to that document, still professed his adherence to all the articles of agreement, although he declared the fulfilment of them to be dependent upon the removal of a few remaining apprehensions, of which, as his Excellency neglected to specify them, having referred for a knowledge of them to documents already in possession of the Resident, the latter desired an explanation.

140. This correspondence, also, had reference to other points of detail which it is not material to notice; with the exception of his Excellency's positive objection to the insertion of the words "with the advice and concurrence of the British Government" in the proclamation proposed by the Resident. His Excellency conceived that the insertion of those words would affect his authority, as they implied that the arrangement was adopted under the guidance of the British Government. The Resident deemed their insertion essential, with a view to give to the people that confidence which they would derive from the declared association of the British Government in the new arrangement: but finding the Vizier inflexible on this point, he ultimately relinquished it.

141. The Vizier's withholding any reply during fifteen days to the Resident's written request for an explanation of his Excellency's remaining doubts and apprehensions, produced a further correspondence, which the Resident reported in another despatch recorded as per margin.†

142. In consequence of that delay, the Resident addressed a letter of remonstrance to the Vizier, in which he again called upon his Excellency to fulfil his own positive engagements, by immediately transmitting to the Resident a sketch of the division and subdivision of his country, by adopting the necessary measures for the collection of the revenue papers and the investigation of the state of the districts, either by deputing Ameens, as proposed by the Resident, or by issuing instructions to the Aumils, according to the modified proposal before mentioned.

143. On this occasion the Resident, with a view to remove every pretext on the part of the Vizier to an immediate fulfilment of his engagements, conceded the points to which his Excellency had objected, namely,—First, The deputation of new Ameens; in lieu of which the Resident agreed that the investigation of the state of the districts, and the collection of the revenue papers should be committed to

* Consultations, 5th July, vide page 217.

† Consultations, 5th July, vide page 220.

to the Ameer in authority under the new character of Ameer, and with the benefit of the proclamation and instructions; and, Secondly, The insertion of the words "with the advice and concurrence of the British Government" in the proclamation.

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144. These concessions might certainly have been expected to induce the Vizier to proceed to the adoption of the measures to which he had given his unqualified assent; but, on the contrary, his Excellency had recourse to new evasions, as well as to the revival of his former objections, although those objections had reference solely to the very arrangement which the Resident had consented to abandon, namely, the deputation of Ameer. The Vizier referred to the Resident's desire of being acquainted with his Excellency's remaining doubts and apprehensions, with a view to remove them; to the Resident's having transmitted to the Presidency a copy of the Vizier's statement of objections to the deputation of Ameer, and also to the Resident's have objected to the partial deputation of Ameer to the two districts of Purtaubgurh and Sultanpore, a deputation proposed by his Excellency in the course of the negotiations, under his suggested scheme of making a trial of the new system in one or two districts; and on these grounds the Vizier founded an assumption, not only that the subject of his doubts and apprehensions was under reference, but that the deputation of Ameer was suspended at the Resident's own request, and that consequently this measure being preliminary to the whole project of reform, every other measure connected with it was necessarily suspended.

145. To this extraordinary document the Resident replied in great detail, exposing and refuting every plea on which his Excellency had endeavoured to justify his departure from his engagements; and on the same occasion, with a view to leave his Excellency no shadow of pretext for further delay, the Resident entered into a discussion of the evils represented by his Excellency to be the necessary consequence of deputing Ameer to collect materials and pave the way for the future assessment of the lands on moderate terms, and under a triennial settlement; evils which, on the present occasion, his Excellency thought proper, in exaggerated language, to describe as being the subversion of his authority, the retirement and disaffection of his subjects, general disorder in the country, a suspension of the collections, and a total loss of balances.

146. The Resident demonstrated the absurdity of these assumed apprehensions by adverting to the exactly-parallel case of the Ceded Provinces, which at the period of the cession were in the same state as the reserved dominions, but which were brought into their present flourishing condition under the British Government, by the very measures now recommended to the Vizier, and were by the agency of Ameer formerly his Excellency's subjects.

147. The Resident, in his despatch enclosing copies of the above-mentioned documents, stated the following observation relative to the state of the negotiation: "The effect of this last letter (meaning that described in the preceding paragraph) remains yet to be seen. I cannot relinquish the hope of his Excellency's being ultimately induced to evince a cordial concurrence in the just views of the Government for his own eminent advantage, as well as the comfort and happiness of his people; and I am further encouraged to indulge this expectation, by reflecting that the expiration of the present current Fusly year will shortly of itself supersede the existing revenue arrangements, and that as his Excellency can scarcely entertain the design of renewing the leases of the farmers in direct opposition to the advice of the British Government, as conveyed by the Governor-General's letter, nor can he propose to himself, at any future period, the support of the British troops to the exercise of the present system of his administration. He must soon see the necessity of adopting the measures of reform, or of sacrificing wantonly a large portion of his revenue."

148. In this expectation, however, the Resident was deceived; and in his next despatch, recorded as per margin*, he had occasion to transmit a copy of a letter

* Consultations, 12th July, vide page 229.

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letter from the Vizier, in which his Excellency asserted that he had never made any positive promise with regard to the introduction of the system of reform recommended by the British Government, denied the application of the provisions of the treaty to the measures proposed to his adoption, and reasserting his former refuted pleas and arguments, declared his resolution not to adopt any of those measures, unless every subject of doubt and apprehension regarding the effects of their operation should be removed from his mind.

149. It is remarkable that this retraction followed a personal conference between the Vizier and the Resident, in which the latter exposed in a forcible manner his Excellency's continued prevarications and evasions, and by argument and remonstrance apparently succeeded in persuading his Excellency to abandon his untenable objections to the prosecution of the measures in agitation.

150. The arguments which, according to the Resident's report, seemed to produce the most impression on the Vizier's mind, were substantially those to which he adverted in his former despatch, as quoted in the 147th paragraph, and were stated to the Vizier in the following terms, viz. :—"That a renewal of
" any of the leases which were now about to expire, or the consignment of any
" portion of his dominions to the future management of farmers, in direct oppo-
" sition to the advice of the British Government and to the express terms of the
" Governor-General's letter, could not, the Resident trusted, be in his Excel-
" lency's contemplation : that the future assistance or support of a single soldier
" of the British army to the present baneful system of assessment and collection,
" or to any of its instruments in the person of his Excellency's Aumils, was
" totally out of the question ; and that, under all those circumstances, it behoved
" his Excellency to consider under what so beneficial arrangement as the plan
" suggested by the British Government, the resources of his country could be
" realized and the internal tranquillity of his dominions secured against the
" probable insurrections of the landholders, the effects of their oppression and
" despair."

151. A note of these observations his Excellency requested the Resident to leave in his hands, promising to make a personal consideration of the subject of them in the course of a few days. The Resident had accordingly prepared, though not transmitted, a letter containing the substance of his verbal remarks and arguments, when he received the extraordinary letter from his Excellency already noticed, which however only rendered the more necessary the transmission of that which the Resident had prepared.

152. The Resident closed his report upon this unexpected issue of the negotiation in the following terms : " On a retrospect of the whole of the proceed-
" ings in this arduous and important negotiation, his Excellency the Vice-
" President in Council will, I doubt not, do me the justice to believe, that
" every possible exertion of my judgment and zeal has been applied, in
" the first instance, to prevail on his Excellency the Vizier to acquiesce in
" the salutary arrangements proposed to him by the Right Honourable
" the Governor-General in Council : that, further, no arguments which the
" instructions of the Government suggested, or the nature of the case and
" subsequent occurrences required, has been omitted on my part, with the
" view and for the purpose of inducing his Excellency to banish his imaginary
" fears and to adhere to his original engagements ; and that his Excellency's
" ultimate denial of those engagements, in direct opposition to the terms of a
" written document authenticated by a letter under his seal, when every argu-
" ment and even plausible pretext for further delay had been repelled, is a
" circumstance which I could not have foreseen, and which no exertion of my
" judgment could at any time have enabled me to guard against.

" I am still encouraged to hope for some favourable change in the mind of his
" Excellency the Vizier as the effect of my last letter ; and I shall not fail to
" take advantage of such a change, if produced, for the purpose of renewing
" the discussion and of prosecuting it to a satisfactory conclusion.

" A firm and decided refusal of the future assistance of our troops to sup-
" port the proceedings of the Aumils or coerce defaulting Zemindars, must of
" necessity

"necessity to produce the desired effect in a very limited time, and a declaration of this resolution on the part of the Government, in a direct address from the Honourable the Vice-President to his Excellency the Vizier, would, I humbly conceive, be of use in accelerating the accomplishment of the object."

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153. From the tenor of these last reports we were finally compelled to entertain a conviction of the impracticability of obtaining the Vizier's concurrence in the system of reform so earnestly recommended to his adoption, excepting only by measures of absolute compulsion, that is to say, by a renewed and direct urgency on the part of this Government, founded on the obligations of treaty, and accompanied by the declaration suggested in the last paragraph of the Resident's despatch, as above quoted; and from the adoption of measures of this description we considered ourselves to be withheld, not only by considerations affecting, in our judgment, the very existence of the connection on its actual basis between the two States, but by the conviction that the Vizier's involuntary acquiescence in the system of reform, even to the full extent proposed by the Resident, would fail to secure its successful operations; for perverted and erroneous as are the views and sentiments of his Excellency, he would have an interest in rendering that system abortive, and we were well aware that his means of doing so were unlimited and beyond control. This consideration, indeed, was present to the mind of the Governor-General in Council when he issued his instructions to the Resident of the 28th December 1810, and it consequently was never in the contemplation of Government to carry the negotiation to the extreme now suggested by the Resident.

154. The object of the reference in those instructions to the obligation imposed upon the Vizier by treaty, and to the reluctance with which the British Government employed its troops for the suppression of disorders occasioned by the evils and abuses of his Excellency's administration, or to state the case more strongly, in supporting the course of injustice and oppression, was to demonstrate the right of that Government to demand from the Vizier the reform of his administration, and to supply the arguments which might be supposed to have the greatest efficacy in convincing the Vizier of the necessity of a reform and in persuading him to adopt it. We could not but be of opinion, therefore, highly as we approved the Resident's zeal and able exertions, manifested in the conduct of this arduous negotiation, that he had gone too far in declaring to the Vizier a positive resolution, on the part of the British Government, to refuse in future the aid of its troops in the suppression of disorders in his Excellency's country, although those disorders should be occasioned by the oppressions or misconduct of his officers, for the introduction of compulsory measures as above explained would entirely change the ground of negotiation, would bring into immediate question the continuance or dissolution of the relations between the two States, as established by treaty; but the course of proceeding suggested by the Resident appeared to us to be objectionable on other grounds, namely, on the doubt which we entertained of its being supported by the laws and principles which regulate the interpretation of treaties.

155. In the instructions which on this occasion were issued under our authority to the Resident, these several points were discussed at great length. Instead of stating the details of these discussions in the body of this address, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the record of those instructions which will be found on the Consultation noted in the margin.*

156. These observations, the Resident was informed, were not intended, in any degree, as a defence of the Vizier's conduct, which we admitted to have been marked by prevarication, evasion, and insincerity, throughout the whole course of the late arduous negotiation; but they were stated, first, because we deemed it of importance that the Resident should be apprized of our sentiments on a question affecting the stability of the engagements subsisting between the British Government and the Vizier, and the obligations of public faith; and, secondly, as being introductory to the resolution which we found ourselves compelled to adopt, under the certain disappointment of all the Resident's

zealous

* Consultations, 12th July, vide page 234.

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zealous and able efforts to accomplish the object of the Governor-General in Council's instructions of the 28th December 1810, and under the conviction already stated, that even the Vizier's acquiescence in every part of the proposed plan of reform, in the actual temper and disposition of his mind, would fail to secure any of the benefits which his cordial adoption of it would unquestionably produce.

157. That resolution was the relinquishment, for the present at least, of any further efforts, on the assumed ground that the protraction of the negotiation, and the subsequent delay in the adoption of preliminary measures and arrangements, occasioned solely by his Excellency's insincere and disingenuous conduct, until the near approach of the termination of the current Fusly year, had rendered the prosecution of the plan of reform at the present season impracticable. The Resident, at the same time, was instructed not to disguise from the Vizier the sentiments of disappointment with which we had contemplated his Excellency's conduct during the whole of the negotiation, and now contemplated the effects of it in the suspension of the salutary and unobjectionable system of reform recommended to his adoption.

158. The Resident, in his despatch on the subject of the negotiation received next after the transmission of the above described instructions (which despatch is recorded as per margin),* having noticed an indisposition with which the Vizier had been troubled, and which had occasioned a suspension of the negotiation, stated that he had received information of a circular order having been issued to all farmers of revenue (with the exception of Mehdee Alee Khan, whose lease, as before mentioned, had several years to run), purporting that no renewal of their leases would be granted, and that the revenues were in future to be collected under the aumance system exclusively.

159. The Resident took this occasion to reply to the instructions of the 21st June (the substance of which is stated in the one hundred and thirtieth and following paragraphs of this report), expressing our opinion of the Vizier's decided disinclination to the adoption of the proposed reform, and our consequent apprehension of his Excellency's probable endeavours to render its operation abortive, and putting the Resident on his guard against those arts, by which the just and benevolent intentions of the British Government in urging the reform might be converted into the charge of having occasioned a material defalcation of his Excellency's revenues, and involved his country in confusion, by effecting the subversion of a long-established system of assessment and collection, without substituting another, either efficient in its operations or adequate to the purposes for which it was proposed.

160. The Resident stated himself to be well aware of the necessity of this caution, and to have kept it uniformly in view: observing, however, that with regard to this point of our apprehension, Government might be considered to be sufficiently secure; for that, in the case of the Vizier's being at length happily induced to fulfil his engagements with the Resident, and to execute the measures of reform under the constant influence of his suggestions, proceeding on his Excellency's own correct and unreserved communication of the circumstances to which the Resident's advice might be intended to apply, the information which he (the Resident) already possessed regarding the character and disposition of the principal landholders, and the state of the country and population at large, enabled him with confidence to predict the successful progress of those measures in every district of his Excellency's dominions, without any material defalcation of his revenue during even the first three years of reform, and with a certain prospect of increase at the beginning of the second settlement of the revenue; whilst, on the other hand, if his Excellency were seriously disposed, and being so disposed should be permitted to depart from any one of his engagements with the Resident, to commence hereafter, as he had already on one or two occasions commenced, what his Excellency termed a partial and experimental reform of the system of assessment and collection of his revenue; if his Excellency continued, as heretofore, to withhold every degree of useful and important

* Consultations, 19th July, vide page 237.

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important information from the British Resident at his Court, to ask the advice of the Resident occasionally on a few unimportant points, and to evince a total disregard of that advice in every instance where it might oppose his own baneful propensities or the oppressive views of his Government; under such circumstances, the Resident observed, the failure, whether partial or total, of the projected measures of reform, and the future decrease of a revenue which was actually decreasing with extraordinary rapidity every year, could not, on any principle, be referred to the councils of the British Government or of its representative, nor could they constitute a valid charge against the efficiency of a general system of reform, which to be executed in the terms of the treaty and existing engagements between the two States, must be executed with the uniform concurrence and advice of the Honourable Company's officers, and the total failure of which might, in this latter case, and in this case alone, be made a ground of charge or reproach against the wisdom and justice of the British Government.

161. The despatch above referred to was succeeded by another three days later in date (and recorded as per margin),* communicating a copy of a letter to his address from his Excellency the Vizier, representing, in the language of apparent alarm, his extreme indisposition, entreating the Resident to visit him, taking with him two or three physicians, and expressing in terms of extraordinary warmth his Excellency's confidence in the Resident's friendship and sympathizing kindness. The Resident stated, that he instantly obeyed the summons: that the physicians pronounced his disorder to be merely rheumatic, and though severe not dangerous: that he had remained a considerable time in attendance on his Excellency, administering every degree of consolation which the nature of his complaint, the apparent condition of his mind, and the kindest offices and expressions of friendship could afford; and that on his second visit he had found his health considerably improved.

162. We mention this circumstance, because the Resident appeared to found on this apparently sincere manifestation of the Vizier's confidence in his friendship and attachment, the expectation of a change in his Excellency's disposition with regard to the pending question of reform, and of his being ultimately induced to yield to suggestions, which this display of the feelings of confidence and personal regard in the hour of sickness and distress implied on the part of his Excellency a consciousness of having been dictated by an anxious desire to promote the welfare and prosperity of his Government.

163. These communications appeared to render expedient the expression of our sentiments upon them, with reference to the tenor of our last instructions; and accordingly, after noticing in suitable terms our concern at his Excellency's illness, and referring to a letter which the Vice-President deemed it proper to address to the Vizier on the occasion, we directed the Resident to be informed, that the circumstances and observations stated in the first of the two above-described despatches, combined even with the conciliatory language of the Vizier's letter to the Resident's address, had not appeared to us to render necessary any alteration of our instructions, because they indicated no material change in that disposition of his Excellency's mind with regard to the projected system of reform on which those instructions were founded.

164. If, it was observed, his Excellency could be supposed to be sincerely desirous of effecting a reform of the present vicious system of assessment and collection; if his objections to the proposed plan were not (as they unquestionably were) fictitious; if (to use the language of the Resident's despatch) any prospect existed of inducing his Excellency "to fulfil his engagements with the Resident and to execute the measures of reform under the constant influence of the Resident's suggestions, proceeding on his own correct and unreserved communication of the circumstances to which the Resident's advice might be intended to apply," it would be the duty of Government to persevere in urging his Excellency's execution of the suggested plan; not, however, by the compulsory means of menacing the withholding of our troops from the internal service of his country, for which, indeed, no necessity would then exist, but by arguments

* Consultations, 19th July, vide page 239.

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arguments calculated to remove his objections; arguments to which, in the temper and disposition of mind above described, his Excellency might be expected to yield, or by compromises not subversive of the object in view: but that, under the Vizier's most manifest aversion to the change of system, no advantage could be expected to arise from our perseverance. That he had resisted the force of argument, had retracted his own positive engagements, and had declined to accept the compromise proposed by himself. That the removal of one objection has been succeeded by another; and, finally, the whole course of his Excellency's conduct during the negotiation had demonstrated a systematic design to avoid the adoption of the proposed measures of reform, and warranted a conviction, that if his acquiescence were enforced by menace or by importunity, he would clandestinely employ the means within his power of rendering it abortive.

165. That the case which, as above cited, the Resident had himself described as enabling him with confidence to predict the success of the meditated measures of reform could not be expected to arise. That in the disposition which his Excellency had so unalterably displayed, he might be compelled, but could not be persuaded, "to fulfil his engagements with the Resident, and to execute the measures under the constant influence of his suggestions;" but that there the effect of compulsion would cease. The disposition would be wanting, which should lead his Excellency to render the Resident's suggestions beneficial, by "his own correct and unreserved communication of the circumstances to which the Resident's advice might be intended to apply;" and that disposition would still prevail, which as it had hitherto led his Excellency to obstruct by every species of artifice and evasion the introduction of the plan of reform, would actuate his secret endeavours to demonstrate the justice of his uniform aversion to it, by precluding the efficiency of its operation.

166. That unless, therefore, such a change should have occurred in the temper and disposition of his Excellency's mind, as to lead him cheerfully to co-operate in the measures of reform proposed to his adoption, limiting his objections to points of real doubt, not raising them, as hitherto, with the secret design of preventing the execution of those measures, we must consider a further prosecution of the negotiation to be more than useless.

167. The next despatch from the Resident contained a reply to our instructions of the 6th of July, the substance of which is stated in the one hundred and fifty-third and following paragraphs of this address. The Resident stated some explanations on two points which formed the principal topics of the discussions contained in those instructions.

168. We had disputed the justice, on the ground of those principles which regulate the interpretation of treaties, of founding a refusal to afford the aid of our troops in suppressing disorders in his Excellency's country; that is to say, a refusal to fulfil a specific obligation of treaty, on the Vizier's declining to accede to a specific plan of reform proposed to him under that article of the treaty of 1801, which imposes on his Excellency an obligation to introduce into his country an improved system of administration and to conform to the counsels of the British Government; in other words, we contended that this refusal on the part of the Vizier could not be deemed such a violation of the articles of treaty, as to warrant what we could not but consider to be tantamount to a declared dissolution of the alliance.

168A. The explanations of the Resident tended to demonstrate, not that the Vizier had violated the treaty by refusing his consent to a specific system of reform recommended to him by the British Government, and that the penalty of that violation should justly be the withholding the aid of our troops for the suppression of disorders in his country (a position which he never intended to maintain), but that his Excellency had evinced a disposition to refuse the fulfilment of a positive obligation of treaty, by abstaining from the adoption of any system or measure of reform, which justified the ultimate declaration of a refusal of the aid of our troops to the oppressive and arbitrary demands of the Vizier's Farmers and Aumils, combined with the exercise of the essential right of

of every Government to investigate and ascertain the justice of the demands which its power might be required to enforce, before proceeding to enforce those demands, by extensive and hazardous, as well as in most cases, unnecessary warfare.

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169. The Resident supported the first part of this position by observing, that his Excellency, in the outset of the negotiation, acknowledged his obligation to reform the system of his Government. That he tacitly admitted his own inability to suggest an efficient plan for that purpose, and that he called upon the British Government, in the person of its representative, to devise and arrange the details of an improved system of administration, such as that Government might consider itself bound and authorized to support, without incurring any longer the reproach of abetting injustice and oppression. That his Excellency after mature deliberation and discussion acquiesced, and declared his acquiescence in the principal measures of reform which had been suggested at his own desire for his adoption, and had finally retracted his acquiescence under circumstances of extraordinary aggravation.

170. In the second place, the Resident contended that his declaration to the Vizier, relative to the future refusal of the aid of our troops, fell far short of that of a positive resolution to refuse their aid for the suppression of any future disorders in his Excellency's country, to be occasioned by the oppression of his Aumils, and that it had been limited to the future refusal of the aid or support of our troops to the *oppressive demands of the Aumils in the progress of their collection of the revenue*, a peculiar description of support for which (the Resident observed) no article of the treaty provided, and which, in fact, was expressly superseded by the second clause of the third article, authorizing and requiring the Vizier to retain in his service such number of armed Peons as should be deemed necessary for the purposes of the collections, and a few horsemen and Nujeebs to attend the persons of the Amcens; although the practice of the British Government, proceeding on principles of liberality to his Excellency the Vizier, had certainly tended to establish a belief in his Excellency's mind, that the British troops, like the armed Peons in his service, were the bounden slaves of his will, the necessary instruments of his oppression.

171. The Resident added, that the only question in his contemplation, in suggesting (as noticed in the hundred and fifty-second paragraph of this address) a direct declaration on the part of the Vice-President, in a letter to the Vizier, of our resolution to refuse the future assistance of our troops to support the proceedings of the Aumils or coerce the defaulting Zemindars, was, whether the belief above mentioned should be removed from the Vizier's mind, by a solemn declaration of the future intention of the Government to investigate the justice of the demands which its power might be required to enforce, or should continue to influence the Vizier's conduct in direct opposition to our counsels.

172. The Resident concluded his despatch (for the details of which we refer your Honourable Court to the record of it on the Consultation noted in the margin*) by signifying his intention of carrying our instructions of the 6th of July into effect, as soon as the state of the Vizier's health should admit of his entering on the subject.

173. The last despatch of the Resident connected with the subject of reform, reported that the Vizier appeared to have recovered his usual state of health. That his Excellency had requested, in an earnest manner, the discontinuance of the daily visits of enquiry that the Resident had paid him; expressing the highest sense of the Resident's friendship and the extraordinary gratification of his Excellency's mind by the sedulous attention of the Resident during the whole course of his illness: on which the Resident observed, that the then apparently happy frame of the Vizier's temper and disposition, if there were any certainty of its continuance, would authorize the hope of success from the renewal of the negotiation; but that he considered himself precluded from taking advantage of any circumstances for that purpose by our recent orders, and that he should therefore content himself with receiving such proposals on the subject as the Vizier might think

* Consultations, 2d August, vide page 241.

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think proper to convey to him. The Resident, in the same despatch, also described the terms on which he proposed to communicate to his Excellency our resolution relative to the suspension of the negotiation.

174. In the reply to the two last-mentioned despatches, a reference was made to specific passages in the Resident's preceding reports, on which we had founded the construction of the Resident's declaration relative to the future employment of our troops. Without disputing the accuracy of the Resident's explanations on that point, it was merely observed that the intent and meaning of the declaration as described by the Resident required that it should have consisted not of an indefinite and unqualified refusal of the future aid of our troops to support the proceedings of the Aumils or coerce the defaulting Zemindars, but of an alleged right of previous investigation, of a right to arbitrate the demands which the troops might be called upon to support, and of an intimation of the resolution of the British Government to exercise that right on all future occasions.

175. The case, it was observed, might be supposed, of one or more Zemindars in a province, driven perhaps to extremity by the injustice or exactions of an Aumil or farmer refusing to pay any portion of the public revenue, assuming an attitude of resistance, and preparing to oppose any attempt on the part of the latter to enforce his demands. Such Zemindars must then be considered to be in a state of rebellion, and under the supposition that the local authority did not possess the power of reducing them to obedience, the demand of assistance from the British troops would be authorized by the stipulations of the treaty, and the case would require the march of our troops to the scene of these disorders; not, however, necessarily for the purpose of enforcing the demands of the Aumil, but for the preservation of tranquillity in the first instance, and ultimately for the enforcement of the demands which, on investigation, might be found to be just, at the same time that investigation would be prosecuted in the manner that might be settled between the Resident and the Vizier.

176. It was observed, that this course of proceeding would obviously require, as the alternative of the Vizier's declining the adoption of any reform, a declaration essentially differing from the terms of that which the Resident actually conveyed to him, since it would require that the right of investigation and arbitration should be asserted and recognized in all cases in which the aid of our troops should be demanded.

177. The Resident was directed actually to convey the intimation above described to the Vizier, adjusting with him, at the same time, the mode of inquiry to be prosecuted for ascertaining the justice of the demands which our troops might be required to enforce.

178. The Resident was informed, that this instruction was founded on the supposition that the Vizier could not be induced cordially to enter into the scheme of reform which had been proposed, because that scheme involved an effectual restraint on the oppressions and exactions of his Excellency's officers, and the means of ascertaining the equity of their demands on the landholders. But that if the change of disposition adverted to in the Resident's last mentioned despatch should have proved so essential as to lead his Excellency to acquiesce in the beneficial arrangements which he had till then resisted, the Resident would, of course, have prosecuted the negotiation which, by the orders of Government of the 6th ultimo, he had been directed to suspend.

179. With the preceding instructions (which will be found recorded as per margin*) the correspondence on the subject of the proposed reform of the Vizier's administration has for the present closed. We learn from the private advices, that on the plea of ill health, the Vizier has continued studiously to avoid any further communication on this subject, and that it is his Excellency's object to observe this course, and to refrain from replying to the Governor-General's letter of the 28th December 1810 until after his Lordship's return to the Presidency.

180. Our object, in conveying to your Honourable Court this detailed report, is to bring under your notice the peculiar character and disposition of the Vizier's mind,

* Consultations, 2d August, vide page 244.

mind, and to exhibit the difficulty, and we fear the impracticability, of influencing him to the adoption of any arrangements which are calculated to affect the operation of his inordinate desire for the accumulation of wealth, however conducive to the prosperity of his country, the happiness of his subjects, and even to the future augmentation of his revenues.

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181. When the lands are let in farm, they are leased on exorbitant terms. The farmer, with a view both to fulfil his engagements and to secure a profit to himself during the limited period of his tenure, naturally exercises rigour and oppression within the limits of his authority. When the lands are held *aumance*, that is, placed under charge of an officer of the Government appointed to collect the revenue, that officer is rendered reponsible for the realization of the imposed jumma, and the excess of the assessment is generally such as cannot be levied without extortion, violence, and injustice. When a compliance with such demands is refused, the farmer, Aumil, or officer, represents the Zemindar or under-renter to be a defaulter and rebel, and urges the necessity of employing troops for his coercion. Thus the Vizier employs the British troops as the instrument of these wide-extended exactions, while their presence, and the knowledge of the obligations imposed on the British Government to suppress disorders within his Excellency's country, precludes that natural remedy which overstrained and unprotected oppression carries within itself.

182. Disappointed in our endeavours to relieve the British Government from the necessity of supporting the activity of a system of rapacity and injustice, without assuming a degree of interference in the internal concerns of the Vizier's dominions which would amount to the absolute control of his Excellency's authority, no alternative seems left but the establishment and exercise of that right of investigation and arbitration which is described in our last instructions to the Resident. This course of proceeding, however, even supposing it to be unobstructed by the perverted interests and artifices of the Vizier, can only be expected to remedy the evils complained of in a very partial degree. The abuses of a system radically vicious must continue to exist, and under the most favourable operation of the proposed arrangement, we can only hope, in some cases, to be the means of preventing specific acts of injustice, and to avoid the pain and the discredit of enforcing exactions by the terror of the British arms.

We have, &c.

Fort William,
15th October 1811.

(Signed)

G. HEWETT,
J. LUMSDEN,
H. COLEBROOKE.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 1st March 1812.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
1 Mar. 1812.

Par. 147. On the consultation of the date noted in the margin* is recorded a despatch from the Resident, containing a report of his discussions and correspondence with his Excellency the Vizier on the subject of the just complaints of the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, widow of the late Asuf-ood-Dowlah, against the conduct of the Vizier towards her, and also expressing her Highness's anxious desire to be permitted to quit Lucknow, from which it appears that the Resident had made several unavailing attempts to procure the redress of her grievances.

148. After the expression of Government's entire approbation of the efforts which the Resident had employed for that purpose, and of its concern at their failure, Major Baillie was directed to renew his remonstrances to the Vizier, under the express sanction of Government; and he was at the same time informed, that if his further endeavours should be equally unsuccessful, it was the wish of Government that he should persuade the Vizier, if possible, to permit the Begum to retire within the Company's provinces, making the necessary arrangements for her passport, and that in that event Government would not object to his employing the argument suggested in his despatch, namely, to urge the

* Consultations, 25th October.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
1 Mar. 1812.

the necessity of her Highness's departure from Lucknow with a view to the restoration of her health, which was not considered to be inconsistent with the spirit of our instructions of the 18th April 1808, adverted to in the two hundred and forty-third paragraph of our despatch of the 27th of September of the same year, those instructions being applicable to the case of our encouraging and assisting the Begum to withdraw from the Vizier's territories and to retire to a far distant country, without consulting the Vizier, and against his consent, and having reference to the inconvenience and embarrassment of making arrangements for her voyage to Mecca, and to considerations which rendered the prosecution of her design undesirable.

149. The Begum's sufferings under the Vizier's most discreditable persecution and enmity, and under the pressure of a severe malady, however, were considered to be sufficient to overbalance those motives of repugnance to grant her an asylum, or even to favour her desire of retiring to Arabia, if she should still earnestly retain it.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
11 June 1812.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated 11th June 1812.

Par. 182. On the Consultation noted in the margin* are recorded extracts from our proceedings in the Judicial Department relating to robberies committed in the districts of Elahabad and Goruckpore, by persons who took refuge from the pursuit of justice in the neighbouring territories of his Excellency the Vizier. The Resident at Lucknow was desired to make the necessary communication to the Vizier on the subject, with a view to the apprehension of the offenders. In the instance of the robberies committed in the district of Elahabad, the perpetrators were subjects of the Vizier. The daring robbery in Goruckpore was perpetrated by subjects of the British Government who derived the means of prosecuting their depredations from the asylum afforded them in the Vizier's territories.

183. The Magistrate of Elahabad has had repeated occasion to complain of the conduct of some of the Vizier's subjects in committing depredations in the district under his charge; and the Resident at Lucknow, in his reply to the instructions of Government, stated that he had made frequent and urgent remonstrances on his part to the Vizier, on the subject of the complaints of the Magistrate of Elahabad.

184. We have now the honour to report to your Honourable Court the renewal of the more serious depredations of the notorious rebel and marauder, Budjha Sing, in the Company's provinces bordering on the dominions of his Excellency the Vizier, and the decisive measures which we have deemed it our duty to adopt, in order to prevail on the Vizier cordially to co-operate in the endeavours of the British Government, directed to the apprehension or extermination of Budjha Sing and his banditti.

185. In consequence of the intelligence contained in the extract from our proceedings in the Military Department, recorded as per margin,† of the aid afforded to the depredations of Budjha Sing by certain Zemindars within the territories of the Vizier, the Resident at Lucknow was instructed, on the 24th of April last, to suggest to the Vizier, and urge his Excellency to adopt such measures as, in the Resident's judgment, might appear calculated to put a stop to the evident collusion of his Excellency's officers and Zemindars with Budjha Sing.

186. Shortly after the despatch of those instructions to the Resident, we received from him a letter recorded on the annexed date,‡ enclosing copies of his correspondence relative to the proceedings of the detachments which were employed

* Consultations, 15th and 29th February 1812.

† Consultations, 29th April 1812.

‡ Consultations, 8th May.

employed in pursuit of the rebel, Budjha Sing, and the protection and support which he derived from the Vizier's landholders in the district of Mohumdie. The Resident also requested the instructions of Government regarding a suggestion contained in Lieutenant-Colonel Adams's address to him of the 12th April, of employing a party of Captain Skinner's irregular horse, to be united with the detachment of infantry stationed at Seetapore, in the protection of the frontier of Bareilly and the pursuit of the rebel.

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187. Your Honourable Court will concur in our regret, that the zealous endeavours of Major Baillie to persuade the Vizier to adopt those measures with regard to his landholders which could alone counteract the inducement they have to abet the depredations of Budjha Sing, and to aid him in eluding the pursuit of our troops, have hitherto been rendered unavailing by the untoward disposition of his Excellency's mind.

188. It has ever been a subject of surprise and of just complaint on the part of the British Government, that the Vizier should so pertinaciously refuse his consent to the measure of authorizing the British troops stationed in the Ceded Provinces to enter his territories in pursuit of marauders, who are enabled to commit depredations in the former by the asylum which they find in the latter.

189. Although it must be admitted as a general proposition, and was indeed distinctly declared to Colonel Collins, the late Resident at Lucknow, under date the 12th August 1805, that consistently with the provisions of treaty, the British Government cannot authorize the entrance of its troops into the Vizier's dominions in pursuit of rebels and fugitives against his Excellency's consent, a point in confirmation of which, also, your Honourable Court was pleased to transmit to this Government decisive orders, yet the grounds of that proposition become in our judgment essentially changed, and the proposition itself must consequently be deemed susceptible of modification, if, as in the case under notice, the most irrefragable proof exists of encouragement, assistance, and protection being afforded to marauders infesting the British territories by the Vizier's officers or landholders, and if, with a knowledge of this fact, his Excellency neglects or refuses to adopt the measures necessary to remedy the abuse.

190. This view of the obligation of the article in question we communicated to the Resident, and observed that the authority of the Vizier within his reserved dominions could not be more absolute than that of the ruler of a State unconnected with the British Government, or any other power, by the obligations of defensive alliance; yet that, according to the principle of public law, no doubt could exist of our right to insist upon any adjoining State's consent to such measures, as after long forbearance and experience had been proved to afford the only efficient means of protecting our own territory, either from the rebellious invasion or the predatory incursions of persons who were enabled to commit those offences against us, by the refuge habitually found within the neighbouring frontier; and if the evils of which the remedy was sought by us were sufficiently great to merit a full exercise of our right, we should be warranted, we observed, by the same principles, in considering a pertinacious refusal on the part of the other Sovereign, amounting in its effect to a protection of the offenders, not merely from punishment but in the continued molestation of our country, as a just cause of war, much more as affording a justifiable motive for passing the boundary in pursuit of a public enemy, for the purpose of doing ourselves and our people the justice which had been refused to amicable and frequent representations.

191. The Resident, however, was desired not to consider these observations as authorizing the actual exercise of that right, but as eventually conducive to the accomplishment of the arrangement suggested by Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, as well as intended to support the efficacy of the Resident's endeavours, and persuade the Vizier to exert his authority with respect to the landholders of Mohumdie, in the manner he had hitherto ineffectually proposed to him.

192. The Resident, we observed, would infer from this intimation, that we concurred in the expediency of Lieutenant-Colonel Adams' suggestion; but as the practicability of employing a detachment of Captain Skinner's irregular horse
in

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in the manner proposed was doubtful, their services being in general so much required within the Company's territories, we informed the Resident that a reference on the subject would be made to the Resident at Delhi, and we accordingly instructed Mr. Metcalfe to ascertain, and report directly to the Resident at Lucknow as well as to Government, whether the services of a party of Captain Skinner's horse employed in Hurriana could be spared for the purpose suggested by Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, and in the event of its being so disposable, to order its immediate march to Bareilly, directing the Risāla-dār of the party to place himself under the orders of the commanding-officer at that station, to be advanced to Seetapore on Major Baillie's requisition.

193. We stated our opinion to the Resident at Lucknow, that the Vizier could not, as apprehended by the Resident, object to the measure of stationing this or any other additional force within his territories, and that our right to adopt it might be maintained, on the ground that the number and description of the British troops to be stationed within his territories is not limited by treaty. That in a spirit of cavil, indeed, his Excellency might possibly allege, that as the number of our troops so to be employed was intended to be regulated by the arrangements necessary for the protection and tranquillity of his dominions, we were not entitled to augment it for any other purpose; but that we were unwilling to believe that his Excellency would resort to that argument, which would afford the strongest reason to impute to him a settled resolution to withhold his co-operation in any measures directed to the object of effecting the destruction of the marauder Budjha Sing. If, however, on that or any other ground, the Vizier should oppose the arrangement, the Resident was authorized to maintain the absolute right of the British Government to carry it into effect, not only on the specific ground above stated, but if necessary on the more general foundation of the provisional right, which must be deemed *à fortiori* to admit the adoption of the arrangement in question.

194. On the day on which those instructions were dispatched to the Resident we received from him the letter recorded on the annexed date,* transmitting his further correspondence with his Excellency the Vizier relative to Budjha Sing, from which we learned the satisfactory intelligence of the Vizier having at length been so far induced to comply with the Resident's recommendation, as to direct the seizure and confinement of some of the Zemindars of Mohumdie who had been proved to have sheltered the marauders.

195. On this occasion we desired the Resident to signify to his Excellency our satisfaction at this apparent disposition on the part of his Excellency to fulfil the positive obligation of contributing, by the exertion of his authority, to the success of the measures in progress for the apprehension of Budjha Sing.

196. We likewise conveyed to Major Baillie our high approbation of the efforts which he had employed to effect this beneficial change in his Excellency's disposition.

197. A subsequent despatch from the Resident, recorded as per margin, notifies the Vizier's having authorized the apprehension of several other Zemindars, subjects of his Excellency, who had been proved to have assisted Budjha Sing.

198. Being desirous of bringing the correspondence relative to Budjha Sing under the review of your Honourable Court in a connected series, we have abstained from noticing some despatches of importance intermediately received from the Resident at Lucknow which have occupied our deliberations.

199. We allude to the three letters, with their enclosures, recorded on the annexed date,† in which the Resident has communicated the correspondence which had taken place between the Vizier and the Resident, in consequence of the oppressive conduct of his Highness towards the Bhow Begum and Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, violating, with respect to the former, the obligations of an engagement concluded by his Excellency the late Governor-General Lord Teignmouth

* Consultations, 15th May 1812. † Consultations, 8th May 1812, vide pages 268 to 277.

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mouth in 1798, by an article of which the Vizier engaged to preserve certain rights and privileges to the Bhow Begum.

200. By that article the superintendence and management of the khoord muhl (the females of the family of the late Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah) at Fyzabad were vested in the Bhow Begum, and the maintenance of its establishment provided for by a grant of territory to her Highness, under the guarantee of the British Government.

201. Among the correspondence is a translation of a letter from her Highness the Bhow Begum to the Resident, stating that the Vizier, without any previous consultation with her, had dismissed Tuhseen Alee Khan, the Nazir of the khoord muhl, from that office, which he had held for near forty years, and placed a person selected by himself in that situation. The Bhow Begum justly complained of the violation of her rights on this occasion, and claimed the interference of the Resident in her behalf.

202. In compliance with her Highness's request, the Resident addressed a letter to the Vizier, pointing out the impropriety of removing Tuhseen Alee Khan from his office without the previous consent and advice of the Begum and of the British Government, and urgently recommended his reinstatement. The Vizier, in reply, stated that he had been induced to remove Tuhseen Alee Khan from the situation of Nazir, in consequence of the complaints made against him by the ladies of the khoord muhl of his want of punctuality in the distribution of their allowances; and his Excellency denied having acted contrary to treaty in removing Tuhseen Alee Khan, on the ground that, according to the tenor of the treaty, he had full power and authority to act as he pleased in his household, being the sole heir and guardian of all his female relations.

203. To this letter the Resident returned a reply, in which he was compelled to combat and refute the assertions and arguments of his Excellency, and in particular to point out the inaccuracy of his Excellency's statement of the dissatisfaction of the ladies of the muhl against Tuhseen Alee Khan, to whom repeated and numerous acknowledgments of his extraordinary kindness towards them, during the period of thirty-eight years, had been made by the ladies of the khoord muhl, and a number of which, under the seals of the ladies, were in the Resident's possession.

204. Your Honourable Court will observe, that after the interchange of further letters, the Vizier signified his consent, if Tuhseen Alee Khan would offer any satisfactory suggestions on the subject of the future management of the muhl, and the ladies of the muhl should approve of it, to reinstate him in his office.

205. We have, on a former occasion, brought under the notice of your Honourable Court the oppression exercised by the Vizier towards his sister, Shums-oon-Nissa Begum. The correspondence to which we have adverted contains a letter from Shums-oon-Nissa Begum to the address of the Resident, expatiating on her numerous grievances, and declaring her resolution, if the Resident should evade her requisition, to quit Lucknow without any further communication to him.

206. The Resident addressed an urgent remon-trance to the Vizier in behalf of Shums-oon Nissa Begum, to which, as your Honourable Court will perceive, no satisfactory reply was returned.

207. Your Honourable Court will observe in the first* of Major Baillie's despatches on which we are treating, that Major Baillie remarks, that, in addition to the cases of their Highnesses the Bhow Begum and Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and to others of great importance, in which the interference and remonstrances of the British Government and the Resident have been disregarded and neglected, the subordinate points of complaint against his Excellency's Government and its officers were such as in his judgment authorized and required the severe animadversion of the Government, with the view of recalling the Vizier to a due sense of his engagements, and of preserving that just and necessary degree of influence over the affairs and Government of Oude which it has ever been thought advisable to maintain.

208. The

* Vide page 268.

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208. The systematic opposition of his Excellency the Vizier to every representation made to him on the part of the British Government, appeared to us to require that the influence of the representative character of the Resident should be supported by a letter of remonstrance on the part of the Governor-General to the address of his Excellency, embracing not merely the primary subjects of the Resident's present despatches, but generally all depending points of negotiation between the two States.

209. The Governor-General therefore addressed a letter to the Vizier, an English copy of which is recorded on the annexed date.*

210. The points which form the subject of the Governor-General's letter have been brought under the notice of your Honourable Court in the late despatches from the Vice-President in Council and the Governor-General in Council; and although his Lordship, in his letter to his Highness, has deemed it proper to discuss at some length the various questions on which representations on the part of the British Government have been treated by his Highness with invariable neglect, we do not consider it necessary to swell this despatch, by introducing into the body of it a recapitulation of the arguments and remonstrances by which his Lordship has urged the Vizier to adopt a line of conduct more creditable to himself, and more consistent with the manifest obligations of existing treaties.

211. It will be sufficient, therefore, to state, that among the points above alluded to, the negotiations which took place during the last year on the subject of a reform of his Excellency's administration, and which formed the subject of a separate address to your Honourable Court, under date the 15th of October 1811, is the most prominent. His Excellency omitting to return any reply to the Governor-General's letter of the 28th December 1810, although near six months had elapsed since his Lordship's arrival at the Presidency, and his evident resolution to avoid, if possible, a re-agitation of that question, clearly demonstrated his Excellency's fixed disinclination to attend to the wishes and advice of this Government and to the obligations of treaty in this respect. The former of these omissions appeared to us to demand particular animadversion, and this topic has accordingly been noticed in suitable terms by his Lordship.

212. The Governor-General also referred to the right possessed by the British Government of investigating and arbitrating all such claims and demands, on the part of the Vizier and his Aumils, as the British troops may be required to support, and adverted to the letters from the Vice-President in favour of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan and Hoosein Alee Khan.

213. His Lordship also judged it necessary to enter into some detail of discussion respecting the Vizier's unwarrantable encroachments on the guaranteed rights of her Highness the Bhow Begum, with a view to demonstrate the injustice of his Excellency's proceedings, and to manifest the determination of this Government to fulfil the obligation of its guarantee on that and on every future occasion; and finally, his Lordship animadverted on the failure of every effort of remonstrance on the part of the Resident to produce even a mitigation of the distresses to which her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum is subjected by the rigour of his Excellency's measures.

214. An English copy of the Governor-General's letter was transmitted to the Resident at Lucknow, for his information and guidance. The tenor of that document, and the intimate knowledge possessed by the Resident of every subject to which it related, precluded the necessity of any other instruction beyond an intimation desiring him, as opportunity might offer and occasions require, to resume, and endeavour to bring to a satisfactory conclusion, the numerous depending questions between the two Governments, regulating his representations to the Vizier by the spirit of his Lordship's letter.

215. The letter addressed to Major Baillie on this occasion, is recorded on the Consultation above noted.†

216. On

* Consultations, 8th May 1812, vide page 263.

† Vide page 282.

216. On the Consultation of the annexed date is recorded* a further despatch from the Resident at Lucknow relative to the superintendence of the khoord muhl; but as the subject of it did not in any way affect the resolutions which we had previously adopted, it is unnecessary to abstract its contents.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
11 June 1812.

217. The reply written by our directions is recorded on the same Consultation.†

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER to BENGAL,

Dated the 9th September 1812.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
9 Sept. 1812.

Letter from, dated 9th May 1810,
(9, 150). Reduction of several forts
longing to rebellious Aumils of the
/107.

Par. 32. Having perused the voluminous correspondence referred to in these paragraphs, and in your subsequent despatches‡ of the 26th August (paragraph 108) and 30th October 1810 (paragraph 79), relative to the movements and operations of the troops stationed in the dominions of his Excellency the Vizier, recently employed at his Excellency's request in the reduction of several forts belonging to his rebellious Aumils and Zemindars, we have the satisfaction to observe that except in the attack made on the fort of Praiegpore, which occasioned the loss of two gallant young officers, Lieutenants Woolley and Dixon, besides several native officers and sepoy killed and wounded, this service, as far as it has proceeded, has been accomplished without any material inconvenience.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER from BENGAL,

Dated the 15th October 1812.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct 1812.

Par. 252. In the one hundred and eighty-second and following paragraphs of our despatch of the 11th of June, we reported to your Honourable Court the communications which we had directed the Resident at Lucknow to address to the Vizier, relative to robberies committed in the districts of Elahabad and Goruckpore by persons who found a refuge from the pursuit of justice in the neighbouring territories of his Excellency the Vizier, and that the Resident had, in conformity to our orders, made frequent and urgent remonstrances on the subject to his Excellency. We now beg leave to call the attention of your Honourable Court to two despatches from Major Baillie recorded as per margin, § one enclosing translations of his correspondence with the Vizier on that subject and copies of instructions issued by him to the officer commanding the troops at Purtaubgurh for the apprehension of a marauder called Kishen Sing, the second enclosing translations of a letter from the Vizier founded on the correspondence reported in the first, and Major Baillie's answer.

253. Your Honourable Court will observe, that the Vizier, in his letter to the Resident last noticed, disputed the right of the British Government to ascertain the justice of the cause in which the services of the subsidiary troops might be required, and the Resident successfully replied to that argument.

254. Your Honourable Court will recollect, that the Governor-General, in his letter to the Vizier of the 8th of May last (an abstract of which was included in our despatch of the 11th of June), has asserted that right. We have not received the Vizier's reply to that letter, but on its receipt we shall be enabled to judge what measures it may be advisable to pursue, with a view either to the efficient exercise of the right in question, or to the more fundamental object of a reform in the system of his Excellency's administration. Major Baillie was therefore desired to continue to maintain it.

255. The

* Consultations, 15th May 1812, vide page 287.

† Vide page 290.

‡ These despatches have not been inserted, as they merely refer to the correspondence recorded on the Consultations respecting the reduction of the Vizier's forts.

§ Consultations 25th June 1812, vide page 291.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1812.

255. The Resident also very properly frustrated an attempt of the Vizier to convert the alleged necessity for the employment of the British troops at Purtaubgurh for the apprehension of the robbers infesting the district of Elahabad, into the means of placing those troops at the disposal of the Aumil for the purposes of oppressive coercion, by issuing guarded instructions on that occasion to the commanding officer at Purtaubgurh.

256. On the Consultation last noticed* are recorded two despatches from the Resident, enclosing translations of his correspondence with the Bhow Begum and the Vizier on the subject of the arrears of stipend due to the families of the Nawabs Mirza Alee Khan and Salar Jung, brothers of the Bhow Begum, and payable under an assignment on the lands formerly held by Mirza Jān, the adoptive son of Almass Alee Khan, which after having been long withheld by the Vizier had at last been discharged.

257. The following are the circumstances of the above case.

258. During the life of Almass Alee Khan and his brother, Rehmüt Alee Khan, the stipends of the families of the late Nawabs, Mirza Alee Khan and Salar Jung, were issued by the Vizier by assignments on the revenue of the districts which were farmed by those Aumils, and the same arrangement was continued while Mirza Jān, the adoptive son of Almass Alee Khan, was the farmer of the districts in question. On the removal and imprisonment of Mirza Jān, about two years ago, the stipends of some branches of those families fell into considerable arrear, and a balance of those stipends, amounting to Rupces 10,550, was still due by his Excellency the Vizier, who persisted in withholding the payment of this small sum, to the great distress of the claimants and vexation of her Highness the Bhow Begum, although he admitted that it was justly due, and recognized the title of the Resident, in conformity with ancient and established usage, to intercede in behalf of the claimants, as the near relations of the Begum.

259. The ground of the Vizier's refusal to pay the balance at the request of the Resident, was his original assignment on the Aumil who had failed to pay the amount, but who had been rendered incapable of discharging it by having been kept under close confinement and his property placed under attachment. Mirza Jān having been liberated from his confinement by the intercession of the Resident, paid the amount of the arrear, which was remitted to her Highness the Begum. Considerable delay, however, appeared likely to take place in the adjustment of the Vizier's demand on Mirza Jān.

260. We concurred entirely in the justice of the arguments which the Resident employed in his letters to the Vizier, with a view to demonstrate that his Excellency's treasury was properly responsible for the arrears of stipend due to the families of the Bhow Begum's brothers; more especially, as by retaining the person of Mirza Jān in confinement and his property under attachment, the Vizier deprived him of the means of discharging the amount, and we informed the Resident that we entirely approved his interference and exertions in the affair.

261. On the proceedings which we have last quoted are recorded letters from the Resident enclosing copies and translations of his correspondence with the Vizier; first, on the subject of a complaint of a non-commissioned officer in the Company's service of an act of outrage committed against his brother by a Cutwal in his Excellency's service; secondly, on the subject of a complaint preferred through the British officer commanding at Byramghaut by a sepoy in the Company's service, of gross maltreatment on the part of an officer of the Vizier's government. For a detail of the circumstances of these outrages, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the documents in which they are reported.

262. It appears to us that the violent and unjust proceedings of the Cutwal were wholly unwarrantable, and we instructed the Resident to insist on the reparation

* Consultations, 25th June.

reparation of the wrong which the family of the non-commissioned officer had suffered at the hands of the Cutwal.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1812.

263. The examinations of the complaint preferred by the sepoy, taken both before the Resident and the Vizier, fully established the justice of it, and the Resident was enjoined not to relax his endeavours to obtain redress.

264. In the one hundred and eighty-sixth and following paragraphs of our letter of the 11th of June, we described the instructions which we had issued on the 8th of May to the Resident at Lucknow, for the guidance of his conduct in the event of continued opposition on the part of the Vizier to the measures and arrangements suggested for the seizure or destruction of the marauder Budjha Sing.

265. The despatch from Major Baillie, recorded on the annexed date,* is in reply to those instructions. Major Baillie reported, that the Resident at Delhi had informed him that it was impracticable to detach a portion of Captain Skinner's irregular horse to aid in the pursuit of Budjha Sing (as authorized by us on the 8th of May), but that the zealous and active exertions of the detachment employed in the Vizier's district of Mohumdie had superseded the necessity of that measure. The Resident at the same time stated the satisfactory intelligence, that at a conference which he had with the Vizier, he had obtained the consent of his Excellency to the unconditional reappointment of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the office of Nazir of the khoord muhl, as well as his Excellency's cheerful acquiescence in some important measures recommended by the Resident with reference to Budjha Sing, and the satisfactory adjustment of a few other subordinate points on which they had long differed in opinion, but that the remaining points of discussion between the two Governments remained in their former state.

266. On the consultation noted in the margin† is recorded an extract from our proceedings in the Judicial Department, relative to a robbery committed in the month of March last in the district of Sarun by some banditti who found protection in the Vizier's district of Baraitch. We deemed it proper to transmit a copy of that extract to the Resident at Lucknow, with directions strongly to urge to the Vizier the expediency of adopting effectual measures for the apprehension and punishment of the banditti, especially of their chiefs, and of instituting a proper enquiry into the conduct of the Zemindars by whom the marauders in question were stated to be protected.

267. Major Baillie prepared a translation of the documents above-noticed for the consideration of the Vizier, and in his letter reporting his proceedings‡ suggested the expediency of detaching a portion of the Honourable Company's troops from Secrota to Atrawla and Bulrampore, and seizing the persons of such marauders as might be found to reside in those districts, without any reference to the Vizier or to the local authority of the Aumil, as was done on a recent occasion, at the suggestion of the Magistrate of Elahabad, in the district of Purtaubgurh.

268. On the subject of this suggestion, we addressed to the Resident the following remarks :

269. We observed, that his suggestion was expressed in terms which created a doubt in our mind with respect to the exact nature of it, as the measures actually adopted in the district of Purtaubgurh, to which Major Baillie referred as the measures which he proposed to be authorized on the occasion under notice did not seem to correspond with the description contained in his letter before us. Major Baillie proposed, that the British troops should be authorized to proceed to Atrawla and Bulrampore, and seize the persons of such marauders as might be found to reside in those districts, without reference to the Vizier or to the local authority of the Aumil: but in the case to which he referred, the orders issued by him to the commanding-officer at Purtaubgurh, directing him

* Consultations, 4th July, vide page 298.

† Consultations, 24th July.

‡ Consultations, 21st August, vide page 300.

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(from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1812.

him "on receiving information of Kishore Sing's concealment, either from the "Magistrate of the district of Elahabad or from the Vizier's Aumil of Pur-taubgurh, to take the necessary measures for the apprehension of that "marauder," were communicated to the Vizier previously to their being dispatched.

270. The mode of proceeding, therefore, adopted on that occasion, could not be said to have been adopted without any reference to the Vizier. If, however, Major Baillie's proposition was to be understood in a more limited sense, that is to say, if he intended as in the former case previously to apprise his Excellency of the nature of the orders to be issued and to obtain his consent, and if by the expression "reference to the Vizier or his Aumil," he merely meant that after obtaining his Excellency's general concurrence in the proposed measure the troops should be at liberty to proceed to the apprehension of the marauders on receiving intelligence of their concealment, without any additional reference or communication to the Vizier, or the Aumil, we apprized the Resident no objection existed to that mode of proceeding, because the only objection would arise from the want of the Vizier's consent, which was not supposed in the latter case.

271. The foregoing instructions were issued to the Resident on the 17th August; but a further consideration of the proposition contained in his despatch last noticed, suggested to us the expediency of endeavouring to obtain the Vizier's consent to a modified employment of the British troops stationed within his dominions, for the apprehension of robbers and criminals who found a refuge and asylum therein from the pursuit of justice. On the 21st August, therefore, we directed the Chief Secretary to address a letter to the Resident, which is recorded as per margin.*

272. It was stated to Major Baillie, that adverting to the interest which, under the existing system of the Vizier's Government, his Aumils and Zemindars had, in conniving at the depredations and protecting the persons of professional robbers, a material advantage would be gained by our possessing the liberty of employing our troops, in certain cases, for the apprehension of such criminals, without previous reference to the Vizier or to the officers of the district in which they might be concealed. The Resident was informed, that the cases in which this employment of our troops was alone contemplated were, when the commanding-officer might receive authentic intelligence that any of the marauders whose seizure was desired were concealed at some place within the distance of a rapid march from the station of the troops, and might have reason to believe that by the delay of a reference to the Vizier, or of application to the Aumil or Zemindar of the district, or even of the latter's knowledge that such movement was intended, the opportunity of effecting the seizure would be lost, or would be defeated.

273. Strong objections, however, oppose the measure of authorizing such a system of proceeding without the Vizier's consent; for, although it is true, that without such consent that system might be rendered necessary, and might finally be justified by provocations even of a negative kind, such as the refusal or the neglect of the Vizier to afford the assistance which we have a right to require against rebels and plunderers who take shelter in his territories, yet to redress ourselves at our own hands in the manner above stated, would be a measure of at least modified hostility, and would throw a degree of perplexity upon the nature of our relations with Oude, in regard to the change which such a state of affairs might be supposed to operate upon them, as might create inconvenience and embarrassment of various kinds: besides, it would be desirable to avoid any act which would afford to the Vizier even a plausible ground for complaining of a breach of treaty, as the movement of troops, and any operation executed by them without reference to him, for purposes of our own, would probably do.

274. For these reasons, we informed the Resident that we were not prepared to authorize the employment of our troops in the manner suggested by him, without a reference to the Vizier, and without a general, if not a specific consent

* Consultations, 21st August, vide page 303.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1812.

sent on his part. We therefore desired the Resident to request, and endeavour to obtain, the Vizier's consent to such orders for the sudden march of detachments, in the cases only of the emergencies we had described, being issued to the officers in command at the frontier stations within his Excellency's dominions, and to make the application for this general sanction, without specifying any particular case for which that power might be desired, but upon the general and well-established ground, that such occasions for the immediate employment of troops might and actually do arise, and that without the power requested, it must occasionally happen that the object which might otherwise be obtained must be defeated.

275. Lastly, we observed to the Resident, that as the Vizier had repeatedly and solemnly declared his solicitude for the seizure of the marauders who infest our territories, by means of the refuge which they found in his own, he could not, consistently with these declarations, withhold his consent to the proposed measure, unless he could disprove the exigency on which the application was founded, or unless he should maintain the probability of our availing ourselves of the solicited privilege, in a manner to disturb the tranquillity of his country and to subvert the authority of his Government in the districts where that privilege might be exercised, a supposition which, under the specified circumstances and restrictions, he would not be warranted to assume, and which the Resident would of course be prepared to combat.

276. The despatch from the Resident recorded on the Consultations noted in the margin,* contains copies of his correspondence with the Magistrate of Elahabad on the subject of the latter's suggestion, that a small detachment from the troops at Purtaubgurh should be stationed in the principal haunts of the marauders who have recently infested the frontier of the district of Elahabad.

277. Concurring entirely in the Resident's opinion of the expediency of the measure suggested by Mr. Fortescue, we directed the Resident to point out to the Vizier the advantages to be expected from that measure, and to request his Excellency's consent to its adoption.

278. We remarked to Major Baillie the similarity of this arrangement to that which, in our instructions of the 21st of August, he had been directed to submit for the sanction of the Vizier, and observed, that the latter would include the former, excepting so far as related to the previous march of a detachment to the vicinity of the haunts of the marauders for the purpose of being in readiness to effect the seizure of them. Although, therefore, the general permission suggested in the former instructions should have been obtained on the Resident's receipt of our reply to his despatch before us, we still stated the necessity of his obtaining the Vizier's specific sanction to the arrangement proposed in the district of Purtaubgurh.

279. Your Honourable Court will find recorded on the annexed date† a despatch from the Resident, in continuation of his letter referred to in the two hundred and sixty-seventh paragraph of this address, relative to the banditti who find refuge in the province of Baraitch, and enclosing copies and translations of the Vizier's reply to his communication on that subject, with further correspondence which had taken place with his Excellency connected with it.

280. The Vizier having, at the recommendation of the Resident, consented to adopt, with regard to the robbers of Baraitch, the same measures that he had been persuaded to adopt with regard to Budjha Sing, Major Baillie stated that the suggestion contained in his former despatch was superseded, and that if a similar course of proceeding were pursued with respect to the marauders who had lately infested the district of Elahabad, and who found refuge in that of Purtaubgurh, it might equally supersede the necessity of the measure proposed by the Magistrate of the former district, and referred for the orders of Government, as noticed in the two hundred and seventy-second paragraph of this despatch.

281. It

* Consultations, 23th August, vide page 304.

† Consultations, 11th September, vide page 306.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1812.

281. It was satisfactory to us to learn, that the Vizier had been prevailed upon to issue the proclamation and orders proposed by Major Baillie (translations of which are enclosed in his despatch); and we signified our concurrence in his opinion of the expediency of issuing the same in the district of Purtaubgurh, with a view to the apprehension of the marauders who had been in the habit of infesting the district of Elahabad, and desired him to make the necessary application to the Vizier on the subject. We left it to the discretion of the Resident to decide whether or not the adoption of these measures should supersede the proposition of the Magistrate of Elahabad above described.

282. We stated, however, to Major Baillie, that it did not appear to us that the more general arrangement suggested in our instructions of the 21st August need be suspended, in consequence of the measures which the Vizier had consented to adopt in the district of Baraitch, although Major Baillie was at liberty to suspend the prescribed proposition if he should judge it expedient so to do, submitting the grounds of his determination for our consideration.

283. At our last meeting of Council on the 2d instant, a despatch from the Resident was laid before us, in reply to our instructions of the 21st and 28th August, referred to in the preceding paragraphs; from which it appears that, at a personal conference with the Vizier on the 12th ultimo, the Resident pointed out to his Excellency the essential benefits to be derived by both States from the arrangement suggested by us, and described in a letter from the Resident to the Vizier, the draft of which the Resident submitted to the Vizier on that occasion. The Vizier desired that the letter might be sent to him immediately, and promised to pay due attention to its contents, and to the further remarks on the subject of it which the Resident advanced at the conference.

284. Major Baillie stated it as his opinion, that his Excellency would readily concur in the measure of stationing a portion of our troops on the frontier of the district of Purtaubgurh, but that his Excellency would make many objections to the other part of the proposed arrangement, viz a general licence to the commanding-officer of our troops for the seizure of marauders in his dominions, without previous application, on every occasion, to himself.

285. In the two hundred and fifth and two hundred and sixth paragraphs of our letter of the 11th June, we adverted to the oppression exercised by the Vizier over his sister-in-law, Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, and to the resolution expressed by the Begum to quit Lucknow and retire to her jagier in the event of her not obtaining redress.

286. The despatch from the Resident recorded on the annexed date,* reports the actual retreat of the Begum to her jagier, and her declared intention of remaining there but for a short time, and then proceeding to the Presidency, or to some intermediate station in the Honourable Company's territories where her residence may hereafter be fixed.

287. The Resident stated, that the Vizier did not appear to be much concerned at the Begum's departure from Lucknow, probably from a consciousness that his own ungenerous conduct was the only original inducement to that measure; and observed, that a timely change of conduct on the part of the Vizier, in compliance with the earnest and repeated advice of the British Government and its representative, would have sufficed to prevent her Highness from executing her design. The Resident added a suggestion, that the Begum Shums-oon-Nissa, might be permitted to take up her residence in one of the principal cities in the Company's dominions.

288. We intimated to Major Baillie, that if, as appeared to be the case, all hope of a reconciliation between the Vizier and the Begum were extinguished, we should concur in his suggestion that her Highness should be permitted to reside at some one of the cities in the Company's territories, and stated our opinion that Patna would be the most convenient. Under that arrangement, it would remain to make the necessary arrangements for her subsistence, which we were

* Consultations, 11th September, vide page 310.

were of course desirous to render, as far as might be practicable, agréable to her wishes.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 Oct. 1812.

289. In the year 1802, the late Resident at Lucknow, Colonel Scott, transmitted an earnest application from the Begum for permission to proceed to Kerbullaw; and she at that time proposed, that the collections from her jagier should be made from her own servants, subject to the authority and guidance, or in other words under the guarantee of the British Government, and that after paying such salaries as she should appoint, the balance should be remitted to her monthly or annually through our officers. The Begum also proposed, that the provisions provided for her use from the Vizier's kitchen should be commuted for an annual payment in money, and the amount be remitted to her.

290. The whole of the Begum's requests were complied with, but her relinquishment of her design precluded the agitation of the question with the Vizier.

291. A similar arrangement, on the present occasion, appeared to us to be unobjectionable: but in communicating this opinion to the Resident, we observed that the consent of the Vizier would be necessary, and that his Excellency would probably be disinclined to admit the intervention of the proposed guarantee.

292. It occurred to us, however, a preferable arrangement would be to commute the jagier for a stipend equal to its produce, the Vizier paying the amount regularly into the Resident's treasury, and the collector of the station at which the Begum might reside paying the same to her by fixed instalments from his. To this arrangement the Begum might object; but we observed to the Resident, that he would not perhaps find it difficult to overcome her objections. We authorized the Resident, however, to adjust the mode of providing for the Begum's subsistence in either way, according to his discretion, expressing our preference of the second suggested arrangement.

293. It being in our judgment by no means advisable, nor under the resolution adopted for any purpose necessary, that the Begum should proceed, as she appeared to have intended, to the Presidency, we desired the Resident, if she should still entertain that design, to dissuade her from carrying it into effect.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 15th June 1813.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 June 1813.

Para. 288. In the two hundred and eighty-third paragraph of our address to your Honourable Court of the 15th of October last, we referred to a despatch from the Resident at Lucknow on the subject of the arrangement which we had directed him to propose to the Vizier for the suppression of gang-robbery on our frontier districts, by banditti who found refuge within his Excellency's dominions.

289. On the Consultations of the date inserted in the margin,* your Honourable Court will find a continuation of the subject of the despatch above referred to, enclosing copies and translations of a further correspondence with the Vizier relating to the mode which had been suggested to his Excellency of employing detachments of the British troops stationed in his Excellency's country for the apprehension of those banditti, and reporting the seizure of four of the principal offenders who were secreted in the district of Baraitch, and of the apprehension of Lootf Alee Khan, the Zemindar of Atrowla, the chief protector and abettor of the marauders.

290. We

* Consultations, 29d October, vide page 314.

Political Letter
from Behgal,
15 June 1819.

290. We signified to the Resident our entire approbation of the answer which he returned to the Vizier's futile objections and discontented remarks contained in his letter to the Resident, the tenor of some of which appeared to call for some more special notice on our part. We observed, that the Vizier, in objecting to the employment of our troops for the apprehension of robbers and banditti, who acquire the means of committing depredation and murder within the British territories by the asylum afforded to them in his Excellency's country, had entirely lost sight of the positive obligation imposed on his Government, and of his disinclination or inability to fulfil that obligation. The measure in question, it was remarked, was proposed solely in consequence of the experienced inefficacy of reiterated applications for the due exertion of his Excellency's authority in effecting the apprehension or expulsion of the marauders; and the observations contained in the Secretary's letter of 8th May last, of which the substance is stated in the one hundred and eighty-eighth and following paragraphs of our despatch from this department of 11th June 1812, had demonstrated, that in applying for his Excellency's consent to the arrangement described in the Secretary's letter of 11th August following, this Government had fallen far short of the exercise of its undoubted rights. It was, moreover, we observed, a subject of just offence to the British Government, that the Vizier had withheld his consent, not on the ground of a real or even professed resolution to supersede the necessity of the proposed arrangement, by the due exertion of his authority over his own officers, but on the plea, or rather the unfounded imputation, of a declared design on our part to refuse the aid of our troops in the execution of the services prescribed by the stipulations of existing engagements, and of our declining to employ a military force for the coercion of debtors and defaulters, which formed no part of the obligations imposed on the British Government by those engagements.

291. We accordingly deemed it necessary to desire the Resident to explain to the Vizier the principles described in the Secretary's letter of the 8th May last above referred to, intimating to his Excellency, at the same time, that in the event of his Excellency's continuing to manifest his aversion to concur in the prosecution of effectual measures for the redress of the grievous evils of which we had so long and so justly complained, the British Government would be compelled to pursue the steps best calculated for the attainment of that object, without reference to his Excellency's authority. Our instructions to the Resident of 23d October last, of which the substance has now been stated, will be found recorded as per margin.*

292. On the proceedings of the annexed date† are recorded two despatches from the Resident, in continuation of the subject of the arrangement above adverted to, for the apprehension of the banditti from the Vizier's country, and for the tranquillity of the Company's frontier in the district of Elahabad, and reporting the seizure of one of the principal marauders. In the latter of these two despatches the Resident stated that he had made the communication to the Vizier prescribed by our instructions of 23d October, and expressed his belief that it had made a due impression on his Excellency's mind, and would be attended with the most beneficial effects.

293. In a subsequent despatch, recorded as per margin,‡ the Resident transmitted a copy and translation of a letter from the Vizier, in reply to the communications above adverted to, respecting the mode of employing detachments of our troops in his Excellency's territory, and reported the subterfuges of his Excellency with a view to prevent the due effect of the measures which had been adopted. On this occasion the Resident observed, that his disappointment in the hope of apprehending a noted marauder and his associates, through the exertions of his Excellency's Aumils, had been aggravated in a peculiar degree by the tenor of his Excellency's reply to the communications which had been made by him to his Excellency of our orders, in which his Excellency had manifested a continued disposition to oppose the just and necessary arrangement proposed, under

* Consultations, 23d October, vide page 317.

† Consultations, 15th January, vide page 323.

‡ Consultations, 29th January.

under the flimsy disguise of a declared solicitude, combined with an ineffectual proposition for the accomplishment of the object in view, by means which had been repeatedly tried and uniformly proved unavailing.

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294. On a perusal of the Vizier's letter to Major Baillie, above adverted to, your Honourable Court will observe, that the conditions which the Vizier thought proper to annex to his consent for the employment of our troops stationed in his territory for the service in question, demonstrate either the absence of any cordial desire on his Excellency's part to co-operate with the British Government in repressing so great an evil and depriving the offenders of the shelter and support which they find in his territories, or some unwarranted and offensive suspicion and jealousy respecting the object which this Government might have in view in the proposed plan. The almost invariable failure of every attempt to secure offenders in which his Excellency's officers have had any share, left no room to hope that they could be more successful in future; and in insisting on a mode of proceeding, of the inefficacy of which experience had afforded the strongest proof, it will be obvious to your Honourable Court that his Excellency's conduct could be ascribed to no motive consistent with friendship or sincerity.

295. Under a deliberate conviction, therefore, of the truth of this proposition, we considered it to be our duty, after one more attempt to obtain his Excellency's co-operation, to resort to the only means which remained to secure the territory and subjects of the Honourable Company from the evils to which they continued to be exposed by the weakness, treachery, and corruption of the Vizier's officers, namely, by the employment of the troops stationed within his Excellency's dominions, as often as occasions for employing them on this species of service should arise, without reference to his Excellency's authority.

296. We accordingly informed the Resident* of our resolution to authorize the officers commanding posts and detachments in Oude, on the receipt of an application either from Major Baillie or from the Magistrates of the neighbouring districts, accompanied by certain information of the hiding-places of public offenders, to detach the troops under their command for the apprehension of the persons pointed out, without any communication with the officers of the local Government. It was judged proper, however, to limit this authority to cases in which the information should be precise and authentic, as any such movements of the troops on uncertain grounds would afford some countenance to those objections, raised by the Vizier, which were so entirely destitute of force and plausibility.

297. With the limitation above specified, we desired the Resident to furnish the commanding-officers with authority and instructions to the foregoing effect, and to make the necessary communication to the Magistrates of the adjoining districts in the Company's territory.

298. As it was on all accounts, however, desirable that the measure which we had now determined on should be taken in concert with the Vizier, we intimated to the Resident that it would be proper for him, previously to issuing the instructions in question, to apprise his Excellency of the orders which he had received, and to make another attempt to obtain his assent to the arrangement, and his cordial co-operation in carrying it into effect. On this occasion we suggested to the Resident the propriety of recalling the attention of his Excellency to the former representations which had been conveyed to him, of the moderation which we had observed in the exercise of our unquestionable rights, which not only entitled us to employ the force within his country for the apprehension of robbers, but under the many ineffectual applications to his Excellency for that purpose, to march troops across the frontier in order to effect it. We furnished the Resident with another argument, not inappropriate to the present purpose, namely, the contrast between his Excellency's conduct and that of other States in.

* Consultations, 29th January.

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in alliance or friendship with us, on similar occasions; and we particularly alluded to the cordial and effectual co-operation afforded by the Government of the Nizam, for the purpose of seizing or destroying marauders who plunder our territory and find refuge in the dominions of his Highness. The recent proceedings of Scindiah's Government, also, in the apprehension of the banditti who attacked Mr. Halhed, as will be noticed more particularly in a subsequent part of this despatch, afforded another subject of representation to the Vizier, whose much more intimate connection and intercourse with the British Government, we observed, would naturally have led to the expectation of a very different result of any comparison between his conduct and that of other princes.

299. If his Excellency should continue to refuse or evade compliance with our just expectations, we instructed the Resident to proceed, without further delay, to carry into effect the orders which he had received.

300. On the Consultations of the annexed date is recorded* a despatch from the Resident in reply to our instructions of the 29th January, above referred to, reporting the successful result of his efforts to obtain the acquiescence of the Vizier in the indispensable measure of authorizing the employment of British troops, on the requisition of the Magistrates of contiguous districts, for the seizure of public offenders.

301. Tardy and reluctant as the Vizier's consent has been, it has afforded us satisfaction, that the measure has been effected in apparent concurrence with his Excellency, instead of being promulgated as the act of this Government, independently of the authority of the Vizier, thus exhibiting to the public a marked disagreement between the British Government and his Excellency on a question of primary importance.

302. With respect to the principal condition annexed by his Excellency to his concurrence in the arrangement, namely, that he should be previously furnished by the Magistrate of the contiguous districts, through the Resident at his Court, with a general list of the delinquents who are supposed to have found refuge in his territory, and whose apprehension may hereafter become the subject of a requisition for the employment of our troops, on the place of their concealment being ascertained, your Honourable Court will observe, that the condition in question is not likely to affect the efficacy of the measures to be pursued.

303. Thus has one of the most vexatious and embarrassing of the subjects of contention between this Government and his Excellency the Vizier been removed; and to the judgment, spirit, and firmness with which the Resident executed our instructions, is to be attributed the satisfactory accomplishment of this most desirable arrangement.

304. For the detail of the instructions issued by the Resident to the commanding officers of the troops, and the communications to the Magistrates in consequence of the conclusion of the arrangement above described, the tenor of which has been entirely approved by us, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the enclosures in the Resident's despatch already noticed.†

305. On the proceedings of the annexed date‡ is recorded a despatch from the Resident in continuation of the subject of his despatch last adverted to, transmitting copies of letters from the Magistrate of Elahabad and the commanding-officers of the troops at Sultanpore and Purtaubgurh, in reply to his communications and instructions noticed in the preceding paragraph. The circumstances stated in one of those letters (Colonel Frith's), of the deplorable state of the wretched inhabitants of some villages in one of the Vizier's districts, as reported by the officer who had been detached there for the apprehension of some offenders, although neither new nor surprising, the Resident remarks, and such

* Consultations, 5th March, vide page 365.

† Consultations, 5th March, vide page 367.

‡ Consultations, 19th March, vide page 382.

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such as have been frequently submitted by him to the Vizier in the course of his correspondence on the subject of reform, exhibit such a picture of the misery and oppression which prevail in his Excellency's country, as to afford a striking proof of the manifest justice and necessity of the measures which we have so urgently recommended to the Vizier for the improvement of the administration of his dominions, and which will form the subject of a separate* despatch to your Honourable Court from this department.

306. The despatch from the Resident recorded on the proceedings of the 26th ultimo* contains the report of the conference which the Resident held with the Vizier previously to obtaining his Excellency's consent to the arrangement for the employment of our troops in the apprehension of banditti in his Excellency's territories, but was not received until after the despatch of our instructions of the 29th January, although the general tenor and result is stated in the Resident's previous despatches. We beg leave to attract the particular attention of your Honourable Court to that despatch, as exhibiting in the amplest manner the unhappy disposition of his Excellency's mind, the character and grounds of his resistance to every proposal, the most simple, unobjectionable, and salutary, which this Government may have occasion to suggest to him, and the extraordinary difficulties which oppose the successful conduct of the duties of the British representative at his Excellency's Court. We have no doubt that the perusal of that document, which embraces the discussion of a variety of arguments with his Excellency on the subject of the negotiation in question, will impress your Honourable Court with a high sense of the address and ability with which the conference was conducted on the part of Major Baillic.

311. On the proceedings of the date noted in the margin† is recorded a despatch from Major Baillic, reporting his proceedings relative to a person named Hyder Bukhsh, a dependant of the late Almass Alee Khan and a native of Corah in the Ceded Provinces, who had for a considerable term of years during the life of Almass held an office under that person's authority in the service of the Vizier. His Excellency now objected to his departing from Lucknow according to his intention, charging him with having embezzled a part of Almass's wealth, which, on that person's death, ought to have become the property of the Vizier.

312. The Resident, aware that this statement was groundless, the Vizier having, through the agency of the Resident, given an acquittance in full to Hyder Bukhsh in common with all Almass's servants, and believing that Hyder Bukhsh's detention had no other object than to gratify the caprice and tyranny of the Vizier, and being of opinion that, as a dependant of Almass, Hyder Bukhsh was entitled to the protection of the British Government, the Resident warmly espoused his cause, and finding the Vizier determined to prevent him from leaving Lucknow, Major Baillic, after several ineffectual attempts to obtain his consent, resolved to sanction the departure of Hyder Bukhsh of his own authority, and to afford him the protection of an escort of British sepoys, to prevent him from being molested by any of his Excellency's officers in the case of their attempting to detain him, and of his Excellency's persisting in his refusal to grant a passport to Hyder Bukhsh, corresponding with that which he had previously obtained under the seal of the Governor-General, to proceed to Calcutta.

313. For a detailed statement of the grounds on which the Resident conceived that he was justified in adopting the resolution above stated, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the Resident's despatch referred to in the preceding paragraph. It appears by a letter from the Resident recorded as per margin,‡ that his Excellency finally consented to the departure of Hyder Bukhsh in the manner described in that despatch. We shall have the honour of stating our sentiments on this transaction to your Honourable Court in a subsequent part of this address, the affair in question being connected with the consideration

* Consultations, 26th March, vide page 385.

† Consultations, 22d January.

‡ Consultations, 19th February.

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ation of a subject which we shall now proceed to bring under the notice of your Honourable Court.

314. On the proceedings noted in the margin* is recorded a letter from the Resident, enclosing the translation of one addressed by his Excellency the Vizier to the Governor-General, exhibiting a formal charge against the Resident of intemperate and disrespectful language and conduct towards his Excellency, concluding by the expression of his Excellency's desire to proceed on his long-talked-of pilgrimage. The Resident accompanied the transmission of that extraordinary document with some remarks on the subject of it, and with the translation of a statement which he addressed and submitted to the Vizier on the receipt of his Excellency's letter to the Governor-General.

315. The Resident prefaced his observations on the charges exhibited against him, by stating that it could not be a matter of surprise that the nature of the negotiations and discussions which had arisen at the Court of Lucknow during the last two years should have excited the resentment of the Vizier against the immediate organ of communication with his Excellency, and the agent for the accomplishment of our just views; yet that a formal and serious complaint, of the nature of that which was now brought forward, was as unexpected on his part as the object of his Excellency's letter, and the principal circumstances which were stated in it, would probably appear to us to be evasive and destitute of solid foundation.

316. In the statement addressed to the Vizier, for which we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the proceedings noted in the margin,† Major Baillie has adverted specifically to every point stated in the Vizier's letter to the Governor-General; and as it appears to us, with one exception, successfully vindicated himself from the charge alleged against him by his Excellency. Major Baillie stated the purpose of presenting the statement to the Vizier to be to enable him to reply to it, if the contents should suggest to him an answer to what he had stated in refutation of his Excellency's accusation.

317. A few days after the receipt of the Resident's despatch above adverted to,‡ we received a further despatch in continuation of the first, transmitting a translation of a letter which he had received from the Vizier in answer to the statement submitted by him to his Excellency, and of his further reply to that letter. On this occasion the Resident stated that it had been his original intention to abstain from further correspondence with the Vizier on the subject of his letter to the Governor-General, and after submitting a copy of the Vizier's answer to his statement, with such remarks as the tenor might have suggested to him, for our decision, to await the communication of that decision to his Excellency directly, or to himself, before he should address him again on any subject whatever, unless it were of a nature so urgent as could not with propriety be postponed until he should receive our instructions. Such an urgency, the Resident stated, had in his opinion actually arisen, with reference to the general tenor and the manner of the Vizier's letter to his address, and particularly to some of the doctrines laid down in that letter, which seemed to the Resident's judgment so novel and extraordinary, that he could not, consistently with his sense of duty, refrain from submitting to his Excellency his sentiments on the nature of the degradation which he had thus attempted to impose on the high official station of the representative of the British Government at his Excellency's Court.

318. Your Honourable Court will observe, on a perusal of the Resident's despatch last adverted to, which contains a copy of the answer which the Resident had returned to the Vizier's letter, that the circumstance of degradation, to which the Resident alluded, was the exceptionable manner of writing which the Resident stated that the Vizier began to adopt in the latter years of the Residency of the late Colonel Scott, and had gradually brought to a pitch, in the Resident's judgment, highly offensive. After stating the causes and motives of the omission,

* Consultations, 22d January, vide page 328.

† Consultations, 22d January, vide page 336.

‡ Consultations, 22d January, vide page 339.

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sion, on the part of his predecessors and also of himself, to notice the conduct of the Vizier in this respect at an earlier period, which had thus afforded an opportunity to the Vizier, not only to persist in and to aggravate his own exceptionable style, but to be the first to complain, however groundlessly, of a want of respect on the part of the Resident, Major Baillie stated his intention to transmit to the Persian Department copies of a number of letters from the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah to Mr. Ives and Mr. Lumsden, of letters from those gentlemen to the late Nawaub, with copies of a number of letters from the present Vizier to Mr. Lumsden and Colonel Scott, and from them to his Excellency; a comparison of the style and manner of which with those of his Excellency's recent letters to himself, would enable the Persian Secretary to report on the general accuracy of the Resident's remarks on that subject. On the receipt of that report, the Resident stated that it would remain for us to decide whether the present forms of correspondence adopted by his Excellency towards the British representative at his Court, and the submissive and derogatory style which his Excellency required to be continued on the part of that officer, or the less exceptionable practice of former times and of the early part of his Excellency's Government, should be resumed and established for the future.

319. The Resident having accordingly transmitted the documents* mentioned in the preceding paragraph to the Persian Secretary, that officer was directed to prepare a report on the subject, to which we shall have the honour to call the attention of your Honourable Court in the sequel.

320. In the meantime we directed the Secretary to address a letter to the Resident, containing our sentiments on the charges of disrespectful and intemperate language and conduct which his Excellency the Vizier had preferred against him, and stating our resolutions, with respect to the other subjects introduced by the Vizier in the same letter, namely, the renewal of his desire to travel.

321. We shall briefly state our sentiments in this place regarding the nature of the charges exhibited against the Resident, referring your Honourable Court for the detailed expression of our sentiments to our Secretary's letter to Major Baillie, recorded on the Consultations of the annexed date.†

322. The extraordinary and groundless accusation in question appeared to us to require the decisive interference of Government, in order to vindicate the official conduct and proceedings of the Resident, to uphold and strengthen the influence of his representative character, and to counteract the evident design of the Vizier in framing the letter to the Governor-General's address, viz. to deter the Government from persevering in the prosecution of the objects which have formed the topics of the Resident's recent discussions with his Excellency, by accusations against its representative at his Excellency's Court, and by renewing the subject of his travels.

323. We were accordingly prepared to address a letter to the Vizier calculated to effect the important object above stated, when the receipt of the Resident's second despatch, noticed in the three hundred and seventeenth paragraph of this letter, enclosing the continuation of his correspondence with his Excellency, appeared to us to render it advisable to take the new and higher ground which we should be enabled to assume, by the discovery of the improper and indecorous style in which the Vizier himself had of late been accustomed to indulge in his correspondence with the British Resident.

324. It became necessary, therefore, to suspend the preparation of an answer to his Excellency's letter, under the different view which we had taken of the question, in consequence of the receipt of the Resident's last despatch, until a particular report should be received from the Persian Secretary, founded on the communications from the Resident to that officer, and on the materials which the records of his office would supply, of the several changes which had occurred in the manner of conducting the correspondence between the Vizier and

* Consultations, 5th March, vide page 371.

† Consultations, 22d January, vide page 346.

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and the successive Residents at his Court, the origin of the departure from those terms of respect which were formerly observed, both by the present Vizier and his predecessor, and the nature and extent of those deviations from the proper style of address. Such a report was necessary to form the foundation of a grave and official remonstrance with the Vizier on the subject; and of a requisition, in the name of the Governor-General, that his Excellency would revert to that correct and decorous mode of conducting his correspondence with the British Resident, from which he ought never to have departed.

325. We directed the Secretary, in his letter before referred to, to signify to the Resident that we did not consider it necessary to enter into a particular and minute examination of the several charges of intemperate and disrespectful language and conduct brought against him by the Vizier, which had been in general successfully refuted in his letter to the Vizier; the only exception to this remark being the case of Hyder Bukhsh, to which we have adverted in a preceding paragraph of this address.

326. With respect to Hyder Bukhsh's case we observed, that it involved the very delicate question of the degree in which our interference with the Vizier in favour of persons of that class could properly be exercised; and as our view of it differed materially from that which had been taken of it by the Resident, we entered at some length into a consideration of the whole transaction. We remarked, that we were unable to consider Hyder Bukhsh in the light of a British subject, on the ground stated by Major Baillie, merely of his having been born and possessing landed property in the Ceded Provinces, since the circumstance of his having been from his infancy resident within the dominions of the Vizier, and employed from an early period of his life in the service of the Government of Oude, combined with the relation in which he stood towards Almass Alee Khan, himself a servant of that State, must, in our judgment, be considered to supersede any claim to the personal privileges and rights of a subject of the Company, which, perhaps, he might otherwise derive from the possession of lands in a province now belonging to the Company but formerly to the Vizier, and ceded by the latter at a period long subsequent to the origin of Hyder Bukhsh's connection with Almass and the Government of Oude. After reviewing the situation in which Almass Alee Khan had stood to the Company, and the peculiar claim which he had acquired to our countenance and support, and acknowledging the disposition which we entertained to afford, to a certain extent, similar countenance and favour to his family and dependants after his death, we observed, that the whole spirit and tenor of our instructions to the Resident of 10th October 1808, by which we had authorized him to interpose in their behalf by employing the language of representation and remonstrance in order to divert the Vizier from any measures of harshness and injustice, nay (as applicable to any supposed designs to deprive the persons in question of their property) the express letter of them demonstrated the objection of the British Government to the adoption of measures of a more decided character, any right to employ which we disclaimed, as inconsistent with the acknowledged prerogatives of the Vizier and the provision of treaty.

327. As connected with the personal claim of Hyder Bukhsh to our support, we observed, in reply to an argument employed by the Resident, that Hyder Bukhsh being possessed of a passport under the signature of the Governor-General, might be considered to be placed in the condition of a person enjoying the protection of the British Government, and on that ground, that his being allowed to depart from Lucknow might be insisted on: that the Governor-General's passport could only become of authoritative force, on the entrance of the person holding it, being the subject of another State, within the Honourable Company's territories.

328. By the stipulations of the treaty of 1801, explained and confirmed by the result of the subsequent negotiation between the Marquis Wellesley and the Vizier at Lucknow, the British Government is empowered to offer its advice to the Vizier on all matters connected with the affairs of his Excellency's Government, and the Vizier is bound to act in conformity to the advice of the Government; but this reciprocal obligation, we observed to the Resident,

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Resident, must be interpreted by the general spirit and objects of the alliance, and cannot be made the ground of indiscriminate interference on our part in questions between the Vizier and his subjects. We remarked to Major Baillie, that it was indeed desirable, on many grounds of practical expediency, as well as because it is consonant to the general spirit of the treaty, that we should abstain from interposing in cases of inferior importance, as the frequent occurrence of such interposition would be apt, by exciting irritation and discontent, to indispose the Vizier to listen to our remonstrances in affairs of greater magnitude, for which the weight of our authority ought to be reserved. On all these grounds, we signified to Major Baillie that we should have wished that he had not taken up the cause of Hyder Bukhsh so warmly, as his just and natural feelings of compassion for the hardship of his situation, combined with his conviction of Hyder Bukhsh's claim to the protection of the British Government, prompted him to do. We added, that it could not be denied that the character of the Vizier's conduct towards Hyder Bukhsh partook largely of that capricious and tyrannical exercise of his power, which had unfortunately become habitual to his Excellency, and which appeared to afford him peculiar gratification, when it was directed against any person who either was, or expected to be, an object of the consideration and regard of the British Government.

329. In communicating these sentiments to Major Baillie, we directed the Secretary to signify to him that we fully appreciated the delicacy of his situation, and the difficulty which he must experience in cases in which the limits of interference and forbearance are so inaccurately defined, in avoiding the opposite evils of trenching upon the independent authority of the Vizier, on the one hand, and withholding the support of his representative situation from persons looking up to the British Government for protection on the other. The repeated testimonies which Major Baillie had received from us, of our approbation of his conduct in the discharge of the arduous duties of his station, we intimated to him would, we had no doubt, satisfy his mind that, in forming a judgment of the course which he was called on to pursue in the affair in question different from his own, we had given the most unqualified credit to the motives of public zeal and of warm and generous feeling which had governed his conduct.

330. We observed, on this occasion, to Major Baillie, that the part of his proceedings relative to Hyder Bukhsh which proved the least satisfactory to us, was the menace which he had held out to the Vizier of affording to Hyder Bukhsh the protection of an escort of sepoys, to enable him to quit the city of Lucknow and his Excellency's dominions. This, it was remarked to Major Baillie, was the more to be regretted, as it might have placed us in the embarrassing dilemma of withholding our support to the proceedings of an officer high in rank and in the confidence and esteem of the Government, or of enforcing an act which our judgment could not approve. Fortunately the difficulty was removed, and the question closed, by the departure of Hyder Bukhsh from Lucknow with the sanction of the Vizier; and in expressing our satisfaction at the termination of this affair, we directed the Resident to intimate to the Vizier, that although Hyder Bukhsh had left his dominions, he would still be liable to be called on to answer any charge or demand which his Excellency might produce against him. We signified to the Resident our desire, that he would take an opportunity of intimating this to the Vizier, at such a time, and in such manner, as he might judge most likely to impress him with a sense of our desire to do impartial justice between his Excellency and an alleged defaulter.

331. On the subject of the desire expressed by the Vizier, in his letter to the Governor-General, to travel, we remarked that we were satisfied that he had no serious intention of putting his plan in execution. His design in bringing it forward was evidently to induce the Government to remit its endeavours to obtain his compliance with its requisitions, by leading it to apprehend that he really would put in force his scheme of leaving his dominions, if he should be pressed on any unpleasant subject of negotiation. His expectation of success was probably encouraged by the great desire which had, on former occasions, been evinced to prevail on him to abandon his intention. As it was highly

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desirable, however, that he should be made to understand that Government viewed it as a matter of indifference, we informed the Resident that we should express our readiness to afford every facility to the accomplishment of his Excellency's wishes, requiring no other condition than that he should make a suitable arrangement for the administration of his Government during his absence. The arrangement we alluded to was that pointed out in the instructions of the 11th November 1802 to Colonel Scott, the then Resident at Lucknow, on the occasion of a similar intention having been expressed by the Vizier to travel, viz. the appointment of a Regent, who should be bound by a specific engagement to regulate all his official proceedings by the advice and recommendation of the British Government. If his Excellency were to consent to such an arrangement, his departure, we observed, though certainly an undesirable event even then, would be the less to be regretted from the opportunity which it would afford of introducing an improved system of administration into his dominions. We concluded this part of the subject, by observing that while the conditions formerly annexed to our consent to the Vizier's undertaking the proposed journey, viz. that he should previously carry into effect the reform, would not be insisted on, it would be proper to intimate to his Excellency that his departure would not cause any relaxation of the endeavours of this Government to accomplish that important object.

332. In conclusion, we directed the Secretary to state to Major Baillie, that recurring to the complaint against him, our confidence in his zealous, able, and judicious performance of the arduous duties of his office continued unabated, and that we were satisfied that the calumnious charges against him were to be ascribed to the displeasure excited in the mind of the Vizier, by his zealous and persevering endeavours to mitigate the rapacious and oppressive system of his Excellency's Government, and to prevail on him to regulate it by the principles of justice, moderation, and good faith.

333. We have now the honour to solicit the attention of your Honourable Court to the report submitted to us by the Persian Secretary on the subject of the forms of correspondence observed between the Vizier and Major Baillie. Your Honourable Court will find it recorded on the proceedings of the annexed date,* and you will observe with satisfaction the testimony borne by Mr. Monckton to the general accuracy of the remarks contained in Major Baillie's address to his Excellency the Vizier, already adverted to, founded on a critical examination of the documents transmitted by the Resident to the Persian office. It would be superfluous, nor could the subject, as involving a critical knowledge of the Persian language, be generally intelligible to your Honourable Court, to follow the Persian Secretary through his discussion of the different terms of address, with reference to the minute rules prescribed for the selection of words and phrases according to the relative rank of the parties, rules complicated and extensive, and altogether unknown in the system of European correspondence. The Persian Secretary stated the result of his investigation to be, that Major Baillie, as he himself had stated, had only reverted to the forms which were observed by the Residents during the late Vizier Asuf ood-Dowlah's administration, and continued for a time after the present Vizier's accession; while, on the other hand, the Vizier had addressed the Resident in a style which placed that officer in a rank relatively to his Excellency far inferior to those of his predecessors in office, who practised the same forms of correspondence as now used by Major Baillie. In corroboration of the conclusions drawn by Mr. Monckton, we beg leave to call the attention of your Honourable Court to a minute recorded on this occasion by Mr. Edmonstone.

334. In that minute, which your Honourable Court will find recorded as per margin,† Mr. Edmonstone stated that the Persian Secretary's analytical observations on the relative forms of correspondence between the Vizier and the British Resident were entirely consistent with all the knowledge which he possessed of the rules and principles by which those forms were regulated, and that he fully concurred in the conclusions which Mr. Monckton had drawn. It was to be observed, however, Mr. Edmonstone remarked, that the Vizier's charge

against

* Consultations, 5th March, vide page 372.

† Consultations, 5th March, vide page 376.

against the Resident on the subject of the latter's written and verbal communications, and the Resident's statement relative to the impropriety of the style of writing adopted by the Vizier, stood on very different grounds. It was the matter and spirit of the Resident's representations of which the Vizier complained. It was the assumption of a high and authoritative style of address, unsuited to his Excellency's relative rank, that constituted the Resident's charge against the Vizier. The first was compatible with the observance of the strictest forms of oriental correspondence, the latter was inadmissible and offensive, however gracious the substance of the communication might be.

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335. Mr. Edmonstone observed, that although the severity of some occasional passages in the series of the Resident's letters to the Vizier might perhaps have been avoided, without weakening the force and effect of his representations, yet the general language of argument and controversy employed by the Resident, naturally and even necessarily proceeded from the very nature of the subjects of negotiation, combined with the peculiar temper and disposition of the Vizier, the defects of his character, and the vicious system of his Government. That language of argument and controversy offended the Vizier, because it was addressed (unavoidably addressed) to him. In every other State, Mr. Edmonstone observed, there was a Minister, who conducted with the representative of a foreign power the details of negotiation. The freedom of discussion was not embarrassed by the inequality of rank, and offence to the Sovereign was avoided by the intervention of an agent. If the Vizier thought proper to undertake the detail of duties which belonged to an officer of Government, he must submit to the inconvenience which necessarily attends his assumption of that subordinate character.

336. The Vizier, it was remarked by Mr. Edmonstone, had no title to complain of the spirit and matter of communications which belong to the subject of negotiation, and which, under the system adopted by him for the conduct of public affairs, could only be addressed to himself. The language of Major Baillie's letters, considered with reference to the minute rules prescribed for the selection of words and phrases according to the relative rank of the parties (rules complicated and extensive, and altogether unknown in the system of European correspondence), was not merely unexceptionable, but perfectly respectful; and Mr. Edmonstone stated his opinion, that the Vizier did not appear to him to accuse Major Baillie of a departure from those rules.

337. Mr. Edmonstone concluded his minute by observing, that the Vizier himself, however, had deviated from those rules essentially, and that the style of his letters to the Resident was that which no person of a rank inferior to that of royalty was entitled to employ in addressing the representative of a foreign State. It was an offence to the British Government, as well as personally to the Resident. The relative terms applied to his own letters and to the representations of the other party, were precisely those which he would adopt in writing to the lowest of his subjects; a gross impropriety, which Mr. Edmonstone remarked should certainly be corrected.

338. The improper and highly disrespectful style of the Vizier's correspondence with the British representative having been thus fully established, the Governor General was enabled to assume the high ground which had been anticipated in framing a reply to his Excellency's letter of complaint, and after specifically answering each article of charge against the Resident, to call upon his Excellency, in the most explicit terms, to revert to those observances of respect which had uniformly been practised from the early periods of the intercourse between the two States, until they had been set aside by his own act. An immediate compliance with this requisition was stated to be essential to the maintenance of the dignity of the British Government, and of its accredited agent at his Excellency's Court. The Vizier was at the same time assured, that as no just cause of offence in that respect had ever been given by the Resident, so in his future correspondence the Resident would always conform to those observances of respect and honour which were due to his Excellency's exalted rank and station, and would manifest every possible regard to his Excellency's feelings on the points on which it would be Major Baillie's duty to address him.

339. With

Political Letter
from Bengal,
15 June 1813.

339. With respect to that part of the Vizier's letter which related to his wish to travel, his Excellency was informed that the Resident had been instructed to make known to him the sentiments of the British Government; and that when his Excellency should have made the necessary arrangement for the administration of his Government during his absence, every practicable facility should be afforded to his Excellency for the accomplishment of his wishes.

340. For the detail of the replies which were returned to each article of charge against the Resident, and of the sentiments entertained by us on the several topics of his Excellency's letter, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the Governor-General's letter to his Excellency which is recorded on the Consultation of the annexed date.*

341. On a perusal of that letter, your Honourable Court will observe, that it has been so framed as to prepare his Excellency's mind for the renewal of the subject of the reform of his administration, and other depending points, on which the extreme pressure of other business of more immediate urgency has rendered it necessary for us to suspend our deliberations, but which are now under consideration, and will form the subject of an early communication to the Resident. It will be obvious to your Honourable Court, that the question of the reform will now be urged with all the advantage to be derived from the effect which must be produced by the decided interference of the Government on the occasion, which was the immediate subject of the letter to his Excellency above adverted to; and a similar advantage may be expected to be found with respect to the other questions depending with the Vizier, which still remain unadjusted.

342. Since the date of the latest proceedings to which this letter especially refers, we have received from the Resident the report of his proceedings under the instructions of the 22d January and 5th March, and of the effect of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier. Copies of the Resident's despatches and of our reply are transmitted as numbers in the Packet, and we congratulate your Honourable Court on the success which has already attended the proceedings which the conduct of the Vizier had rendered it absolutely necessary to adopt.

343. We have, as intimated above, reserved the report of our proceedings on the important question of reform, and the few other points still depending with his Excellency, for a separate despatch, in continuation of that which was addressed to your Honourable Court by the Vice-President in Council, on the same subject, on the 15th October 1811. Your Honourable Court will learn with satisfaction, that of the several subjects of discussion with his Excellency the Vizier which were depending when that letter was written, and others which subsequently arose, there remain but two unadjusted, exclusive of the question of reform.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
1 Oct 1813.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 1st October 1813.

Para. 290. On the proceedings of the annexed date is recorded a despatch from the Resident, reporting the extreme illness of the eunuch, Tuhseen Alee Khan, and enclosing an arzee from him respecting the disposal of his property after his death, and soliciting the protection of the British Government to his surviving relations and dependants. Tuhseen Alee Khan at the same time addressed a letter to the Governor-General, which is recorded as per margin.†

291. The long and intimate intercourse which had subsisted between Tuhseen Alee Khan and successive Residents at the Court of the Vizier, his known attachment to the British Government, the great respectability of his character and conduct, and the services which he had rendered on the occasion of his Excellency's

* Consultations, 5th March, vide page 376.

† Consultations, 3d September.

lency's elevation to the musnud of Oude, constitute claims on the countenance and support of the British Government which appeared to warrant the decided interference of the Government in favour of his surviving relations and dependants, and for the protection of his property, in order to give effect to the disposition which he had made of it. For the detail of the instructions which, under this impression were issued to the Resident, and which provided also for the question which might arise with his Excellency respecting the succession to the office of superintendent of the khoord mulh, in the event of the Khan's decease, as well as for securing a suitable maintenance for the women belonging to that establishment, and for the reputed children of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the letter addressed by our Secretary to Major Baillie, recorded on our proceedings of the annexed date.*

Political Letter
from Bengal,
1 Oct. 1813

292. On the 6th ultimo we received a despatch from the Resident,† notifying the intelligence of Tuhseen Alee Khan's decease. Major Baillie reported, at the same time, the communications which had passed between him and the Vizier, relative to the property of the late Khan. In the reply which we directed the Secretary to address to the Resident, we signified our approbation of the arrangement which he had made, in concert with the Vizier, for the custody of the property and the suspension of any further proceedings, until the receipt of a reply from us to the reference from the Resident on the subject.

293. With a view to mark our respect for the memory of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, we have directed the Resident to confer khillats on the grand nephews of the deceased, and his confidential agent Shuhab-ood-Deen; intimating, at the same time, that it would be proper that this mark of regret and esteem for Tuhseen should be bestowed in concurrence with his Excellency the Vizier. Our instructions to the Resident, in which we provided also for the case of the Vizier refusing to pay this tribute of regard on his part for the memory of Tuhseen Alee Khan, are recorded on the Consultations noted in the margin.‡

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER to BENGAL,

Dated the 18th February 1814.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
18 Feb. 1814.

Letter from, dated 15th Oct. 1811.
Negotiations with the Vizier for
effecting a reform in the admini-
stration of his Excellency's affairs.

Para. 131. Your voluminous despatch in the Political Department of the 15th October 1811, contains a narrative of your proceedings connected with the endeavours employed by your Government to introduce into the territories of the Nawaub Vizier a reform in the present vicious system of his Excellency's administration. The nature of the existing disorders, and the remedies which it was proposed to apply for their correction, are fully detailed in your instructions§ to the Resident of the 28th December 1810, and in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier of the same date, as well as the consequences naturally resulting from a continuance of the present system of revenue administration, namely, to perpetuate every species of oppression, exaction, and disorder, and ultimately to destroy the productive sources of the country.

132. In the second paragraph of the despatch before us, our attention has been called to the frequent occasions for the employment of British troops in reducing to obedience the Zemindars of the Vizier's territory, who have been represented by his Excellency or by the Aumils to be refractory. You observe, that the cause of resistance on the part of the Zemindars to the authority of the Aumils has too frequently been the oppression and undue exactions of the Vizier's officers, and the over-assessment of the lands; and that the British Government has thus often been required to support, by the aid of its troops, the cause of injustice, and to contribute to the continuance of a system injurious to the real interests of the State, and destructive of the rights, the comfort, and

* Consultations, 3d September, vide page 523.

† Consultations, 10th September, vide page 525.

‡ Consultations, 10th September, vide page 527.

§ Vide page 127.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
18 Feb. 1814.

and prosperity of the people. Our despatches of the 14th September 1808; paragraph 57; 20th April 1811, paragraph 79; and the 4th September 1811, paragraph 43, will shew that this subject had not escaped our observation.

133. It is deeply to be regretted, that the negotiation with the Vizier, so ably and zealously conducted on the part of the Resident, under your instructions, for procuring a reform in the administration of his country, has failed of success. Your object in conveying to us the detailed report of this negotiation in your despatch of the 15th October 1811, is, according to the one hundred and eightieth paragraph of that despatch, "to bring under our notice the peculiar character and disposition of the Vizier's mind, and to exhibit the difficulty and (you fear) the impracticability of influencing him to the adoption of any arrangements, which are calculated to affect the operation of his inordinate desire for the accumulation of wealth, however conducive to the prosperity of his country, the happiness of his subjects, and even to the further augmentation of his revenues."

134. We entirely concur in opinion with you, that the refusal, on the part of the Vizier, to accede to a specific plan of reform proposed to him under that article of the Treaty which imposes on his Excellency an obligation to introduce into his country an improved system of administration, and to conform to the counsels of the British Government, could not be deemed such a violation of the articles of treaty, as to warrant the refusal, in future, of the aid of its troops in the suppression of disorders in his Excellency's country, although those disorders should be occasioned by the oppressions or misconduct of his officers. At the same time, we approve of your having caused a declaration to be made to the Vizier, that you had resolved to exercise the right to arbitrate in demands which the troops might be called upon to support, leaving the mode of inquiry to be prosecuted for ascertaining the justice of such demands to be adjusted between the Vizier and the Resident.

135. By your subsequent despatch of the 11th June 1812, we are concerned to observe that the systematic opposition of his Excellency the Vizier to every representation made to him on the part of the British Government, was such as to require that the influence of the representative character of the Resident should be supported by a letter of remonstrance on the part of the Governor-General, embracing generally all depending suits of negotiation between the two States. We hope to hear that remonstrance on the part of the Governor-General has induced the Vizier to adopt a line of conduct more consistent with the manifest obligations of existing treaties.

Political Letter
from Bengal.
31 Mar. 1814.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 31st March 1814.

Para. 212. On the proceedings of the annexed date* are recorded two despatches from the Resident at Lucknow, reporting the result of his conferences with his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, under the instructions of the 3d and 10th September last, respecting the disposal of the property of the late Tuheen Alee Khan, as reported to your Honourable Court in the two hundred and ninetieth and subsequent paragraphs of our address from this department of the 1st of October last.

213. On a perusal of the despatches above adverted to, your Honourable Court will perceive with concern the determined opposition of his Excellency the Vizier to the desire which we had instructed the Resident to convey to his Excellency, on the part of the British Government, to carry into effect the provisions of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will. We stated to Major Baillie, that we considered the refusal of his Excellency to comply with the dying request of a person so long and faithfully attached to his family, and to whose firmness and integrity

* Consultations, 31st December 1813, vide page 531.

integrity he is himself so largely indebted for his succession to the musnud of Oude, to reflect discredit on his Excellency's character.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
31 Mar. 1814.

214. Whatever might be the sentiments, however, which we entertained on this subject, the decision of the British Government on a question involving the independent exercise of the rights of the Vizier over his own subjects and servants, must necessarily be determined, not by the dictates of personal feeling, but by considerations of public equity and good faith. Entertaining the warmest sense of Tuhseen Alee Khan's merits and services and of his attachment to both States, and convinced of the obligation imposed on the Vizier, by every principle of gratitude and honour, to fulfil the reasonable and just bequests of the deceased, as well as of the right and duty of this Government to urge it to the utmost extent compatible with a due regard to his Excellency's right of final judgment in his own concerns, still it did not appear to us that we should be warranted, by the consideration above stated, in endeavouring to carry the measure against the declared opposition of the Vizier. The duty of the British Government, we stated to the Resident, is performed by the sincere and zealous exertions of the influence which it derives from its relations with the Government of Oude, in favour of the family and dependants of Tuhseen; but the interference of the Government must be bounded by these limits, and we could not reconcile to our sense of justice or expediency the prosecution of this demand to the consequences to which it would lead, if the principle of unlimited interference were admitted.

215. Viewing the question in this light, and adverting, also, to the opinion expressed by the Resident, that the cordial acquiescence of the Vizier could scarcely be looked for, we found ourselves compelled to relinquish the expectation of prevailing on the Vizier to leave the personal property of the deceased to be disposed of according to the terms of his will; and we accordingly desired the Resident, in whose custody, with the concurrence of the Vizier, the property in question was retained, to give it up to his Excellency.

216. Although this proceeding appeared to us to be unavoidable under the circumstances of the case, we were nevertheless desirous of prevailing on the Vizier, by friendly representation and an earnest appeal to his humane and honourable feelings, to make a decent and proper provision for the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth, and for the adherents and servants of Tuhseen Alee Khan mentioned in his will.

217. It appeared to us that a compromise, on the principle above stated, might be effected without material difficulty, as it would be free from the appearance of the objection which seemed to form the principal difficulty with his Excellency, namely, that the execution of the will would publicly proclaim the violation of his rights, and encourage his other servants in similar practices. It is scarcely necessary to observe to your Honourable Court on the groundless nature of such an objection, since the case of Tuhseen is singular, and it was morally impossible that a parallel one should arise in future. As it was urged, however, by the Vizier, we desired the Resident to renew the negotiation in favour of Tuhseen's family on the basis above stated; and with a view to assist his representations, and to manifest the earnest desire of the Government to obtain from the Vizier's justice and liberality a suitable provision for their support, the Governor-General addressed a letter to the Vizier calculated to produce that effect. In the letter above-mentioned, the resolution announced to the Vizier of withdrawing the proposition relative to Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, was stated by the Governor-General to have originated in a suggestion submitted by Major Baillie. This declaration, while it was consistent with the fact, the measure having been suggested in the first instance by the tenor of the ninth and following paragraphs of the Resident's despatch of the 23d of November 1813,* was calculated to impress upon the Vizier's mind the desirable conviction, that he owed this act of concession to the concurrence of Major Baillie's advice and recommendation with the sentiments and disposition of the Government. The Governor-

* Consultations, 31st December, vide page 551.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
31 Mar. 1814.

Governor-General also refrained from stating, in his address to the Vizier, the precise extent of the provision to be made by his Excellency, deeming it to be more consistent with the spirit of the present proceeding, and with respect for the Vizier, to leave the decision of this point to the uncontrolled dictates of his Excellency's just and humane consideration of the case. We instructed the Resident, however, to be prepared to meet any reference to him from the Vizier, with a recommendation that the provision to be made for the persons named in the will should be regulated, as nearly as possible, by the declared wishes of the deceased, and that the allowance to be assigned to the residuary legatees should be sufficient to maintain them in ease and comfort.

218. A powerful motive with us in relaxing on the point of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, was the desire which we felt to avoid multiplying the causes of irritation and dissatisfaction in the mind of the Vizier, which if excited by urging his Excellency too strongly on points of minor importance, must tend greatly to defeat our purposes in affairs of greater moment. We saw no reason to apprehend that our influence over the Vizier's mind would be weakened by yielding to his prejudices on this point, accompanied as the measure would be by a decisive declaration of our sentiments to his Excellency on the important question of reform, and the other depending points which had so long been a subject of negotiation. On the contrary, we were of opinion that, by a judicious use of this concession in the affair of Tuhseen Alee Khan's will, some advantage might be gained in the negotiation of the others. For a further detail of our sentiments on this subject, and of our instructions to Major Baillie, we beg leave to refer your Honourable Court to the letter which was addressed to him by the Secretary, under date the 31st of December 1813.* The letter from the Governor-General to the Vizier, above adverted to, is also recorded on the proceedings of the same date.

219. In acknowledging the receipt of our instructions last referred to,† the Resident stated, that the general principles which had been laid down for his guidance in his future negotiations with the Vizier, should be adhered to with the strictest attention on his part. Major Baillie also stated, that the concession of the original purposes of the Government regarding the property and will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and the unconditional surrender of that property to his Excellency the Vizier, could not fail to afford the highest gratification to his Excellency's mind, and would, he trusted, have the salutary effect of producing his cheerful acquiescence in the object of the appeal to his generosity in behalf of the relations of the deceased, as well as of inducing his Excellency to listen to our representations on points of more importance. The subsequent despatch, recorded as per margin,‡ contains a report of Major Baillie's conference with the Vizier, in which he pointed out to his Excellency, in a very able and convincing manner, the services and merits of Tuhseen Alee Khan, and the claims which he had established in favour of his family and dependants on the justice and liberality of his Excellency. At this conference the Vizier having requested the Resident to state the extent of the provision to the grand-children of Chutra Mull, Major Baillie, in the first instance, proposed that the aggregate amount of the provisions assigned in the will, namely, five hundred and seventy-five rupees per mensem, should be extended to one thousand, thus giving four hundred and twenty five rupees to the family of Chutra Mull. On the Vizier's objecting to this amount, the Resident restricted his proposal in behalf of the family to an allowance of three hundred rupees; which though his Excellency did not promise to grant, yet he seemed to the Resident to be disposed to consent to. Two days subsequently to the conference, however, the Resident received a communication from the Vizier, apprizing him of his final resolution in favour of the servants and dependants of Tuhseen, namely, the confirmation of all the bequests of the deceased in favour of the former, on the condition of their attendance on his Excellency, and a grant of two hundred rupees per mensem to the latter, in compliance, as the Vizier signified on this occasion, with the desire

* Consultations, 31st December 1813, vide page 564.

† Consultations, 11th February 1814, vide page 589.

‡ Consultations, 4th March, vide page 595.

desire of his Excellency the Governor-General, and with Major Baillie's concurrence and advice. His Excellency had accordingly prepared a letter to the Governor-General, in reply to his Lordship's of the 31st December, to the effect of the communication above stated. A translation of his Excellency the Vizier's letter is recorded as per margin.*

Political Letter
from Bengal,
31 Mar. 1814.

220. In a subsequent despatch, recorded on the proceedings last adverted to,† the Resident reported, that from the tenor of a written communication which he had received from the Vizier, it was obvious that his Excellency had resolved to limit the extent of his bounty to the grand-children of Chutra Mull Seth to the sum of two hundred rupees per mensem. The Resident further reported, that the Vizier adhered to a promise which he had made, of constructing a monument over the grave of Tuhseen, on which subject we had furnished Major Baillie with instructions. His Excellency had also agreed to repay the charges of subsisting the cattle, &c. belonging to the estate of Tuhseen from the day of his demise, on which subject some discussion passed between his Excellency and the Resident; and under those and other considerations, stated in his despatch, the Resident surrendered the property of Tuhseen into his Excellency's hands.

221. We have signified to Major Baillie our approbation of the tenor of the observations which he made to his Excellency, and generally of the manner in which he executed our instructions on the subject above described‡. With respect to the grant of two hundred rupees for the support of the relations of the deceased, we have observed to the Resident that it would have been more satisfactory if his Excellency had assigned the larger sum proposed by him, yet that we did not consider this to be a point on which his Excellency should be urged further.

222. On the proceedings now transmitted with this address, your Honourable Court will observe many despatches from the Resident at Lucknow and our instructions in reply, on the important subject of the reform of his Excellency's dominions, into which we refrain from entering at present, it being our intention to submit a separate report to your Honourable Court. For the same reasons, we also refrain from adverting to the question respecting the provision to Hoosein Alee Khan, the son of the late Hyder Beg Khan, which will form a part of our proposed report above alluded to.

223. It will be satisfactory, however, to your Honourable Court, to be informed that his Excellency the Vizier has finally acquiesced in our wishes regarding the grant of a pension to Hoosein Alee Khan, and that his Excellency has settled upon him and the other indigent branches of the family a monthly allowance of two thousand rupees.

POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 18th May 1814.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
18 May 1814.

Par. 1. We propose in this letter to submit to your Honourable Court a report of our proceedings relative to the reform of the administration of his Excellency the Vizier, and the other points of negotiation lately depending with his Excellency, which as stated in the three hundred and forty-third and two hundred and twenty-second paragraphs of the letters of the 15th June 1813 and 31st of March last, respectively, to your Honourable Court in this department, have been reserved for the subject of a separate communication.

2. In a despatch of the 15th of October 1811, the late Governor-General in Council submitted to your Honourable Court the detail of his proceedings with relation to the reform, up to the period when, for the reasons there stated, it
was

* Consultations, 4th March, vide page 601.

† Consultations, 4th March, vide page 602.

‡ Consultations, 4th March, vide page 603.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
18 May 1814.

was determined to suspend the negotiation : and in the two hundred and ninth and following paragraphs of our letter in this department of the 11th June 1812, his Lordship in Council reported the renewal of the negotiation, in the letter addressed by the Governor-General to his Excellency the Vizier on the 8th of May.

3. Besides the great question of reform, that letter embraced all the other topics which had lately been agitated between the Vizier and the British Government, relating to the two Begums, to the case of Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, of Hoosein Alee Khan (the son of the late Hyder Beg Khan), and to the employment of the British troops stationed in Oude in the pursuit and apprehension of public offenders.

4. A considerable time elapsed before the Vizier replied to the late Governor-General's letter of the 8th of May, during which interval the Resident was employed in endeavouring to impress on his Excellency's mind the importance of the subjects of which it treated, and the necessity of conforming to the advice and just expectations of the British Government.

5. The Resident has reported, in considerable detail, the substance of his conferences with the Vizier during this interval of time, in a despatch recorded on the proceedings noted in the margin ;* and your Honourable Court will not fail to observe the ability with which Major Baillie's share of those conferences was conducted, and the complete and decisive manner in which he established the justice of our demands, and the weakness of the arguments by which the Vizier attempted to resist them.

6. On receiving from the Vizier his Excellency's reply to the Governor-General's letter, the Resident deemed it proper to address a memorial to his Excellency, in which he again combated with great ability and success the arguments by which the Vizier endeavoured to support his refusal to comply with the requisitions contained in the Governor-General's letter. The line of argument pursued by the Resident on this occasion, indeed, consisted of little more than the repetition and enforcement, in a more precise and concentrated manner, of the reasoning which the Resident had previously employed in conference, joined to such additional observations as were suggested by the tenor of the Vizier's letter.

7. His Excellency, in his answer to the Governor-General, commenced his observations on the subject of reform, by asserting that he had originally proposed to the Resident to depute one of his sons with a detachment of British troops for the purpose of settling the country, and alleged that this scheme having been rejected by the Resident, no blame was imputable to his Excellency for the failure of the measure. His Excellency stated, as a fundamental objection to the plan of the British Government, that a general settlement of the revenue could not be affected until the whole of the lands should be measured, and their extent and value correctly ascertained. His Excellency also stated, that he felt an apprehension, that the appointment of Ameens to investigate the assets of the districts would create discontents among the people ; and he declared, that the introduction of a new system of police and of the administration of justice, before the expulsion and extirpation from his Excellency's dominions of rebels and disaffected persons, would be nugatory.

8. To the foregoing remarks the Resident replied, in the spirit of his discourse at the conferences which he had previously held with the Vizier, that the objection to the deputation of one of his Excellency's sons was founded on the inadequacy of that measure to the object proposed ; that the proposition was unaccompanied by any plan or scheme of assessment which the British Government might be called on to approve or disapprove ; that, on the contrary, the first regular and defined plan of reform was submitted to the Vizier by the British Government, in the Governor-General's letter of the 28th of December 1810, and after having been accepted by the Vizier, was suddenly, and without any just

* Consultations, 2d July, vide page 409.

just cause, rejected by his Excellency. Major Baillie added, that no assistance from the British troops could be required in carrying into effect a plan for the settlement of the country, founded on principles of justice and moderation.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
18 May 1814.

9. On the next point, the Resident observed, in substance, that the example of the Ceded Provinces, where an equitable assessment of the whole country had been effected without any previous measurement of lands, ought to satisfy his Excellency of the practicability of the plan proposed by the Governor-General, without having recourse to so tedious, expensive, and arduous an operation. In cases where the value of the lands could not otherwise be ascertained, or where disputes arose between the revenue officers and the landholders, that mode, the Resident observed, might be resorted to with advantage; but that a general measurement would have no other effect than to produce delay in the completion of the settlement, and alarm and distrust in the minds of the people.

10. Referring to the apprehensions entertained by the Vizier, of discontent among the people being the consequence of the preliminary appointment of Ameens, the Resident observed, that the object of that measure was to conciliate the people and to remove any ground of alarm, and could not be expected to create disaffection or commotion; adding, that if such should unfortunately be the result, the British troops would be prepared to quell it, and to support the authority of the Ameens. The Resident remarked, in this part of his argument, that two things only were wanting to secure the successful progress of the reform and of every just measure which could form an object of common interest to the two States, namely, on the part of the Vizier, a sincere desire to promote their success, and on the part of the British Government, the exertion of its influence and power in support of his Excellency's authority.

11. In reply to the Vizier's fourth objection, namely, that the introduction of a new system of police and of the administration of justice before the expulsion and extirpation of rebels and disaffected persons from his Excellency's dominions should be effected, would be nugatory, the Resident remarked, that as the British troops had been for some years past constantly employed in reducing persons described by his Excellency and his officers as rebels, it was difficult to suppose the existence of the inclination, or means of resistance to the authority of courts of justice and police, to be constituted in the manner proposed with the advice of the British Government, and that the British troops would at all times be ready for the suppression of such instance, and for the support of the just authority of the police and the decrees of such courts of justice as those described.

12. The Resident then adverted to a passage in the Vizier's letter, expressing a desire to be furnished with fuller information relative to the means by which an investigation and adjustment might be made of the claims and demands of his Excellency's Government, which the British Government might be required to enforce. On this subject, which your Honourable Court will recollect is included in the late Governor-General's letter to the Vizier of the 8th of May 1812, the Resident repeated to his Excellency the proposition which he had made to his Excellency on a former occasion, for the deputation of Ameens on the part of both Governments, or by the Resident himself, as affording the most satisfactory means of effecting that object, without in any respect involving a compromise of his Excellency's authority or consequence.

13. The rest of the Resident's memorial, which is recorded on the proceedings of the annexed date,* relates to the other subjects of negotiation with the Vizier, to which we shall advert in the sequel of this despatch. The Resident concluded, by urging his Excellency to reconsider and revise his letter to the Governor-General, with a view to the suppression of such parts of its contents as would, on further deliberation, appear to his Excellency to be hostile to the spirit of friendship and cordiality, that should ever regulate the discussions between the British Government and his own.

14. A trans-

* Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 468.

Political Letter
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14. A translation of the letter in its original form, of which the Resident transmitted a copy, is recorded as per margin,* and will, we doubt not, appear to your Honourable Court, on perusal, to manifest the same unhappy spirit of evasion, which we have too often been obliged to ascribe to his Excellency's proceedings in the course of this negotiation.

15. The proceedings of the Resident, in endeavouring to induce his Excellency to withdraw and revise it, were approved, and appeared for a time to have been attended with success; for his Excellency, after the receipt of Major Baillie's memorial, requested that the transmission of the letter might be suspended.†

16. A few days afterwards, the Vizier transmitted to the Resident, for the purpose of being forwarded to the late Governor-General, a letter to his Lordship's address, the subject of which was limited to the question of the superintendence of the khoord muhl and the departure of the younger Begum from Lucknow; two of the points discussed in the Governor-General's letter of the 8th of May 1812. This letter corresponded entirely with the passages in his Excellency's former letter (afterwards recalled, as above-stated) relating to these questions, and we shall have the honour of addressing your Honourable Court on the subject of it in a subsequent part of this despatch, deeming it advisable to preserve the narrative of our proceedings relative to the reform unbroken.

17. It was not till the 5th of December 1812, three months after the recall of the former letter, that the Vizier delivered to the Resident his reply to those parts of the Governor-General's letter of the 8th of May, which related to the reform and the other questions not comprehended in the letter referred to in the preceding paragraph; and the letter, as now transmitted, differed from the recalled one only in the omission of the passages relating to the two Begums.

18. In this interval Major Baillie had repeatedly, but without success, endeavoured to convince the Vizier of the justice and necessity of his acquiescence in the views of the British Government. Major Baillie states‡ the failure of his endeavour to be, in his own judgment, ascribable to the Vizier's untoward disposition, to the habitual and even constitutional jealousy and suspicion with which he has ever received propositions of the simplest nature and most beneficial tendency on the part of the British Government, and to the hope of protracting at least, if not of evading, a compliance with its just views and requisitions, founded on the known reluctance of Government to urge matters to extremity with him, or to adopt even the language of demand under any circumstances whatever.

19. We have already, in a summary manner, stated the nature of the objections offered by the Vizier to the introduction of the proposed reform into his administration; and on this account, and as they do not differ in substance from those of which the detail is submitted in the despatch of the Governor-General in Council of the 15th October 1811, we deem it unnecessary to state them more particularly on the present occasion. For the same reason, we forbear to make any observations on the Vizier's reply to Major Baillie's memorial, or on Major Baillie's remarks on that document. Both are recorded on the annexed date§; and we take the liberty of referring your Honourable Court to the documents themselves, for more particular information regarding their contents. The Vizier's letter to Lord Minto is recorded on the same date.||

20. On the proceedings of the annexed date¶ are recorded two despatches from the Resident, reporting the conferences which he held with the Vizier, at his Excellency's special request, for the purpose of discussing the arrangements connected with his Excellency's proceeding on a pilgrimage, and the measures which

* Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 427.

† Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 426.

‡ Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 483.

§ Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide pages 488 and 493.

|| Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 484.

¶ Vide page 497.

which it would be previously necessary to adopt, as the indispensable conditions of the assent of the British Government to his departure.

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21. Your Honourable Court will have observed from former transactions, that the declaration of an intention to proceed on a pilgrimage is a proceeding always adopted by his Excellency, when he is desirous of evading or terminating any unpalatable subject of public discussion. The manner and occasion of the revival of the question in the present instance, were reported to your Honourable Court in the 314th and following paragraphs of a despatch from the Governor-General in Council in this department, under date the 15th June 1813.

22. After a detailed and formal discussion of the whole subject, his Excellency declared to the Resident the necessity which he felt himself under of deferring his departure, on account of the difficulty of concluding a satisfactory arrangement for the administration of the Government in his absence, and the superior advantage of establishing a reform in his administration previously to his departure; a declaration which Major Baillie regards, and apparently with justice, as a puerile attempt to ascribe the relinquishment of a design which he had never really entertained, to the imaginary obstacles opposed to its execution by this Government, and to gain time and distract the attention of the Resident, by engaging him in a complicated discussion of several questions at once, totally unconnected with each other.

23. In pursuance of this design, his Excellency conveyed a paper to the Resident, purporting to contain the result of their conference on the subject of his departure, but artfully calculated to forward his views of procrastination and evasion. His object was, however, detected and defeated by the Resident, a transcript of whose reply to the Vizier, as well as of his Excellency's paper, is contained in his despatch recorded as per margin.*

24. The result was, that his Excellency withdrew his paper, and shortly after transmitted to the Resident a document, which he described as containing a communication of his fixed and unalterable sentiments, on the important question of reform.†

25. That document is recorded as per margin;‡ and while it conveys a reluctant assent to a reform generally, without accepting the plan submitted in the Governor-General's letter of 28th December 1810, is evidently designed to demonstrate the impracticability of producing any beneficial change in the present form of his Government, through the agency of ours, without encroaching on his independent authority, as guaranteed by the Honourable Company, and to lay the ground for charging the eventual defalcation of any part of his revenues, or the failure of some of the measures of reform which might be attempted, to the inefficacy of the system proposed, securing to himself the credit of having acquiesced in it, and thus secretly thwarting the whole plan, without exposing himself to the consequences of such a procedure.

26. A translation of his Excellency's paper, and of the letter addressed to him by Major Baillie, with a view to counteract the design of it, are recorded on the proceedings above referred to.†

27. This was the state of the negotiation when the late Governor-General in Council again took up the question, which he was prevented from doing by the constant pressure of business of a more urgent, though not more important nature, until the month of July 1813.

28. On the 2d of that month, after a deliberate and careful review of the whole correspondence, the Governor-General addressed a letter to the Vizier, in the terms of the draft recorded on that date.

29. The same considerations which have induced us to refrain from the repetition, in detail, of the objections urged by the vizier to the measures recom-

* Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 500.

† Consultations, 2d July, vide page 503.

‡ Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 505.

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recommended in the Governor-General's letter of the 8th May 1812, render it nearly equally unnecessary to state at large the observations and arguments contained in the letter addressed by Lord Minto to the Vizier in reply.

30. Your Honourable Court will be pleased to observe, that his Lordship considering all argument on the subject to have been completely exhausted in the long and elaborate discussions which had already taken place, and being decidedly of opinion that the British Government would not be justified in relaxing its efforts to carry the reform into effect, while a possibility of accomplishing it remained, he did not, in the letter now addressed to the Vizier, aim so much at exposing the weak and untenable sophistries and the feigned doubts and alarms of the Vizier, as at endeavouring to impress on his mind, both the right and the determination of the British Government, to enforce the observance of the stipulations of the Treaty in that particular, to make him sensible of the condition to which his perverseness in opposing our just views might eventually place him with relation to this Government, and the hopelessness of ultimately succeeding in that opposition, and generally, to obtain his prompt and implicit compliance with demands urged under the express sanction of a public treaty, by awaking his mind to the possible consequences of an opposite course of conduct.

31. All these considerations were accordingly pressed on the Vizier in every different point of view, and his Excellency was solemnly called on to unite with the Resident in the immediate adoption and execution of the arrangement to which he had already given his consent.

32. The Governor-General's letter also adverted to the other subjects of negotiation pending with the Vizier, or lately brought to a conclusion between his Excellency and the Resident. These will form the subject of a subsequent part of this despatch.

33. At the conclusion of the letter, the Governor-General took occasion to impress on the mind of the Vizier, the solemn nature of the obligation by which his Excellency is bound to resort to the friendly advice and assistance of the British Government, not only in such extraordinary and important affairs as those which formed the principal topics of the letter now under review, but in the ordinary administration of his Government. By a careful observance of this rule, his Lordship remarked, the Vizier would secure to the utmost practicable extent, the easy, tranquil, and regular transaction of his affairs, and avoid those vexatious controversies and discussions which must be the inevitable result of a deviation from this salutary course. His Lordship then proceeded to state, that it must always be a subject of regret to him, to address his Excellency in the language of complaint, remonstrance, and expostulation; that it was his earnest wish that their direct correspondence, as well as the discussions between his Excellency and the Resident, should relate exclusively to questions in the progress and result of which nothing unsatisfactory to either party should find a place; that the failure of this desirable object could only be ascribed to the reluctance so frequently manifested by his Excellency, to receive and conform to the counsel of the British Government, whether conveyed in letters directly from the Governor-General, or by the Resident in the name and authority of the Government; that it was at all times in his Excellency's power to avoid such an unpleasant discussion, by a prompt and sincere compliance with the just demands and salutary advice of the British Government; but that while his Excellency should persist in disregarding that advice, and resisting those demands in matters deemed essential to the interests of his Government and the welfare of his subjects, and on his compliance with which the British Government was entitled and required to insist, his Excellency must not expect that the British Government, by whatever hands it might be administered, would shrink from the performance of its duty, however painful it might be to discharge it. His Lordship concluded, by requesting the Vizier to receive the communications of the Resident as proceeding directly from himself.

34. In the instructions to the Resident transmitted with the English draft of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier, the Governor-General in Council observed that he could not anticipate the new efforts of evasion or delay which his

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his Excellency might employ, with a view to prolong the negotiation, after the receipt of his Lordship's letter. His Lordship in Council observed, that it was probable that the Vizier might declare his assent to the plan, and agree to enter immediately, in concert with the Resident, on the necessary arrangements, and perhaps actually do so, trusting to time and circumstances for an opportunity of breaking them off, or perhaps to the means which he would possess, by clandestine intrigue, of frustrating them in their progress. His success in either, it was observed, would be deeply to be regretted, as defeating, or at least retarding, the accomplishment of the reform, and would afford matter of unworthy triumph and gratification to the Vizier. His Lordship in Council expressed, however, his entire reliance on the vigilance, discernment, and energy of the Resident, for frustrating any designs of that nature which his Excellency might entertain.

35. The same occasion was taken of conveying to the Resident the cordial expression of the Governor-General in Council's approbation of the ability, judgment, firmness, and perseverance, which distinguished his conduct in the arduous and important negotiation in which he had been engaged. The special approbation of the Government was conferred on the able tenor of the Resident's remarks on the Vizier's first proposed answer to the Governor-General's letter of the 8th of May 1812, as containing arguments the most irrefragable, in opposition to the weak and evasive reasoning adopted by his Excellency, with a view to obstruct the salutary and indispensable object of reform.

36. The Resident was directed, on the receipt of the Governor-General's letter, to renew the negotiation, in the name and by the direct authority of the Governor-General in Council, and in the spirit of the contents of the letter which he was directed to enforce by such further arguments and representations as might, in his judgment, be calculated to improve and confirm its impression on his Excellency's mind.

37. The above instructions to the Resident are recorded as per margin.*

38. On the receipt of the Governor-General's letter of the 2d of July, the Resident waited on the Vizier for the purpose of delivering it to his Excellency, and offering such remarks and explanations as might be necessary to confirm and enforce the reasoning which it contained. Before we state the result of the Resident's proceedings on this occasion, it will be proper to notice his communications with the Vizier during the interval between the latest proceedings of the Resident reported to us antecedently to the preparation of the Governor-General's letter and the receipt of that document by the Resident.

39. Your Honourable Court will be pleased to remember, that the Resident was absent from Lucknow during the greater part of the month of July and part of August, in the execution of our instructions on the subject of the affairs of the Bhow Begum, the particulars of which have been reported to the Honourable the Secret Committee.

40. Previously to his departure for Fyzabad, the Resident held several conferences with the Vizier, in which he fruitlessly endeavoured to prevail on the Vizier to comply with the demands of the British Government on the several depending questions. After his return to Lucknow he renewed his instances, with the aid and under the influence of the instructions of Government of the 2d July, above referred to, and in the spirit of the Governor General's letter to the Vizier, of which an English copy accompanied the instructions, the Persian letter not having yet reached his hands, owing to the time required for rendering into that language a paper of such length.

41. In the despatch reporting his proceedings,† the Resident has stated what he conceived to be the real tenor and intent of the language employed by the Vizier on those occasions, when he departed from the reserve and silence which he usually maintained. His Excellency's real intention the Resident declared in his judgment to be, to acquiesce in the proposed measure of reform so far only

as

* Consultations, 2d July, vide page 513.

† Consultations, 17th September 1813, vide page 527.

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as might be compatible with the unrestrained exercise of his own absolute power and the unlimited indulgence of his spirit of extortion and rapacity.

42. In the same despatch, the Resident has enclosed the translation of a letter to his address from the Vizier, under date the 21st June 1813, in which his Excellency disavows the obligation of his written acquiescence in any measures of reform, and describes the instrument which conveyed it as no more than a statement of answers to certain propositions on the part of the Resident, which his Excellency was at liberty to abide by or depart from as circumstances might afterwards suggest. Your Honourable Court will determine by a reference to the instrument itself, recorded on the date noted in the margin,* whether this be a just construction of it. The Resident urged from this part of the Vizier's letter, and from the other observations in it with respect to the reform, the justness of the construction which he put on his Excellency's language, as above stated.

43. The Resident in his answer, a translation of which also formed an enclosure in his despatch and is recorded on the same date, replied *seriatim* to the several arguments adduced by the Vizier, and endeavoured to satisfy his Excellency of their weakness and inapplicability. The Resident especially dwelt on the construction put by the Vizier on the stipulation in the Treaty, and his subsequent engagement with the Marquess Wellesley, that he would in all cases advise with the British Government. We do not think it necessary, however, to advert more particularly to this correspondence, which from the turn which the transaction subsequently took has become of inferior importance to what might otherwise have been. To this letter the Resident did not receive a reply; but in the different conferences which he held with the Vizier about this time, his Excellency continued to repeat the remarks to which it was intended as an answer. Major Baillie states, however, that he ultimately brought his Excellency to the alternative of the immediate execution of the measures of reform originally recommended to him, or of producing a written demonstration of their inconsistency with the terms of the Treaty.

44. In this state of the negotiation the Resident received the late Governor-General's letter to the Vizier; and we deem it to be proper, for the more complete and satisfactory information of your Honourable Court, to transcribe in this place the following passage in the Resident's despatch of the 29th of September 1813, describing the manner in which he carried into effect the resolutions of the Governor-General in Council relative to the reform, as reported in the thirty-third paragraph of this letter :

" Your Lordship's letter to the address of his Excellency the Vizier, under date the 2d of July last, was received from the Persian Department on the 1st instant, and presented to his Excellency on the morning of Saturday the 4th instant, at his country seat of Dilkoosha, when I had the honour of breakfasting with his Excellency.

" The nature and tendency of the only remarks and exhortations which could with propriety have accompanied the delivery of such a letter as this to the Vizier must be so apparent to your Lordship in Council as to supersede the necessity of my repeating them. I continued in conference with his Excellency, after reading some portions of the letter to him, for a space of several hours, during which I laboured assiduously to direct his most serious attention to the important and momentous crisis to which the discussions between him and the British Government had been brought, by his procrastination and evasion on questions that admitted not of a dispute.

" Your Lordship's letter to his Excellency I described to him as containing a final declaration of the just expectations of the Honourable Company's Government on a number of questions that had been agitated between his Excellency and me for a period of three years, and on each of which his Excellency had taken advantage of the great lenity and forbearance of the British Government, for the purpose of evading demands, the manifest justice of which had been repeatedly demonstrated by arguments that his Excellency was originally unable to combat and had long ceased to oppose. For a recapitulation

* Consultations, 3d May 1811, vide pages 179 *et seq.*

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" pitulation of those arguments I referred him to some passages of your Lordship's former letters, and to several letters and memorials transmitted by me to his Excellency, particularly those of the 27th of June 1811, the 15th of January and 29th of August 1812, and the 29th of April, 1st of May, and 2d of July last, scarcely any of which had been honoured with a reply.

" In reality, I observed to his Excellency, the questions to which those arguments referred did not at any time admit of a dispute, and should never have given rise to the discussion which his unhappy disposition had occasioned. The reform of his Excellency's Government was prescribed by the letter of a treaty, and should have commenced on the conclusion of that treaty. The delay on the part of our Government to propose a specific plan of reform had been accounted for in a satisfactory manner. It had arisen exclusively from a desire to render the system as perfect as possible, by experience of its effects in our dominions; and this delay could never obviously have affected, in the smallest degree, the obligation, on the part of his Excellency, to execute a plan of our suggestion whenever it should be proposed for his adoption. A specific and unobjectionable plan had been recommended by your Lordship to his Excellency in the beginning of the year 1811, and the details of it had been generally approved by him. Had they been disapproved by his Excellency, it might still have been argued with force, that as the suggestions of the British Government, with whose advice he had pledged himself to conform, he was bound by the treaty to adopt them, and his refusal even in that case to do so, might have been considered as a violation of the treaty; but after solemnly declaring his acquiescence in the principal measures that were proposed to him, his refusal to carry them into effect might have justly involved him in consequences which I felt the greatest reluctance to describe to him, and which I prayed to God to avert. Those consequences were feelingly referred to in your Lordship's letter to his Excellency as actually now hanging over him, and suspended alone by the moderation, the extraordinary patience and forbearance of the Honourable Company's Government, which his Excellency had tried to the utmost, and which could scarcely be expected to bear with his procrastination or evasion any longer.

" But if the Government were even still disposed to forbear, I entreated his Excellency to consider that the actual state of his country, as recently described by himself, called loudly for immediate reform, and must shortly, in my opinion, be such as to require a more general and comprehensive interference on our part, than his Excellency, perhaps, was aware of, for the purpose of supporting his authority and preserving the tranquillity of his dominions.

" His Excellency had repeatedly told me, that a fourth part of his revenue for the present year was outstanding, and that few of the principal landholders paid any respect to his Aumils, so that a general insurrection of the landholders might at no distant period be feared, and the aid of the British troops to be necessarily accompanied by Ameens, in the terms of my declaration to his Excellency by your Lordship's especial command, was the only alternative that could remain for the support of his Excellency's authority, save his cordial concurrence with me in the execution of the measures of reform. To the effects of an interference like that described between his Excellency's officers and his subjects, indispensable on the part of our Government for the purposes of essential justice, and perfectly warranted by the spirit of the Honourable Company's guarantee, I entreated his Excellency to attend, while forming his ultimate decision on the first and most important of the questions that were argued in your Lordship's letter, and with this exhortation I concluded my remarks on the subject of reform."

45. When the Resident had finished his discourse on this and the other points adverted to in the Earl of Minto's letter, the Vizier, who had listened to the whole in silence, observed that he had long been in expectation of receiving his Lordship's letter, and was glad that it had arrived, because it would necessarily lead to an adjustment, in some way or other, of questions that had been too long unsettled, more particularly the question of reform; that his affairs were in

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great disorder owing to the protracted discussion of this question, and that he could not be at rest till it was settled. He concluded by stating his resolution to peruse the letter with care and attention, and to lose no time in preparing an answer, expressive of his final determination on every point which it embraced.

46. It is not necessary to recite the reply of the Resident, which was conceived in the spirit of his former discourse and of the instructions which he had received.

47. While the Vizier was occupied in deliberating on the letter in question and in preparing his reply, the Resident, with a view to separate the subordinate topics to which it referred from the great question of reform, addressed his Excellency on the subject of the former with a view to obtain his decision. The Vizier's replies being considered by the Resident to be unsatisfactory, and to indicate a design to evade the question of reform also, the Resident addressed his Excellency again in more pointed language, and received an answer to the following effect :—That his Excellency was sorry to observe the Resident's suspicions of his wish to evade or resist the demands of the British Government, as conveyed in Lord Minto's letter to him ; that any longer evasion or delay was obviously out of the question ; that the discussion of all points in dispute had already lasted for years, and an end must be put to it immediately ; that resistance to the demands of the British Government was obviously out of his power, and no resource but acquiescence remained ; that he was occupied from morning till night in preparing his reply to the letter, and that the Resident should receive it in a very few days : what then was the occasion for hurry on any particular subject, when the whole must be settled so speedily ? The Resident's importunities might perplex and disturb his Excellency, but could answer no beneficial end.

48. The purport of this answer persuaded the Resident, that the Vizier was convinced of the necessity of acquiescing in the demands of the British Government with a reference to the question of reform and to the other questions agitated in Lord Minto's letter, and he therefore abstained from further importunity with his Excellency on these topics until the result of his deliberations should be known.

49. The Vizier having transmitted to the Resident his reply to Lord Minto's letter, Major Baillic was concerned to find that it was written in the same perverse and unhappy disposition of mind evinced by his Excellency on former occasions, and such as to preclude any reasonable expectation of his cordial concurrence in the reform, or his willing concession of any other of the remaining points in dispute. Immediately on the perusal of the letter, the Resident sent a message to his Excellency, remonstrating against the tenor of the letter and his intention of offering some remarks on it. Accordingly he visited the Vizier in a few days, and held a long conference with him on the subject, the result of which was the expression of a desire, on the part of his Excellency to recall the letter, with a seemingly sincere resolution to alter its general spirit, and to express at least in a more cordial manner his acquiescence in the system of reform, as well as to do immediate justice to the claims of Alce Nuckee Khan. The case of the latter is one of those to which we shall hereafter solicit the attention of your Honourable Court.

50. The despatch in which the foregoing proceedings of the Resident are reported is recorded on the date noted in the margin,* and is the last which was received from the Resident during the administration of Lord Minto. Some of the Resident's despatches of a subsequent date, to which we shall now advert, were addressed to that nobleman, but were not received at the Presidency until his Lordship had resigned the Government into the hands of the Earl of Moira. In like manner, the answer ultimately returned by the Vizier to Lord Minto's Letter of the 2d July was not received until after his Lordship's resignation of the Government.

51. In

* Consultations, 15th October 1813, vide page 524.

51. In a letter addressed to Lord Minto, under date the 2d of October, and recorded as per margin,* the Resident reported the entire and cordial acquiescence of the Vizier, not only in the plan of reform, but in all the other demands of the British Government which had lately been agitated with his Excellency.

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52. The Resident states in that despatch, that the Vizier having sent for the Resident's Moonshee, took occasion to remark, that in consequence of the Resident's dissatisfaction with his Excellency's letter, he wished to alter it in the manner proposed by Major Baillie, and then recapitulated the several points discussed in the Governor-General's letter and his own sentiments on each. From the Moonshee's report of his further conversation with the Vizier, Major Baillie gathered that his Excellency's chief objection to the reform was not to its principle, nor even to the general outline of the plan as described in Lord Minto's letter of the 28th December 1810, but was founded on an article of the agreement between his Excellency and the Resident, dated 4th April 1811,† by which he considered himself bound to submit to the Resident's inspection the whole of the revenue accounts of his dominions, and to obtain that officer's approbation of every scheme of assessment of a district before the settlement should be carried into effect, or in other words, according to his Excellency's construction, to place the power of the assessment of his revenue in the hands of the British Government or its representative, and that if this objection could be removed, there was reasonable ground to expect the Vizier's cordial concurrence in all the measures of reform, and his concession, partial or total, of every other matter in dispute.

53. Knowing that the ground of his Excellency's alarm was entirely foreign to the intention of the Government, Major Baillie exerted himself to banish this apprehension from the Vizier's mind, and to convince him that a just and moderate assessment of his dominions for a fixed period of time, with security to the landholders and cultivators for a strict adherence to the terms of their engagements with the Government and with each other, was all that the British Government had in view, and that no unwarranted, unnecessary, or indelicate interference in the minute details of his Excellency's administration of his revenue was ever contemplated; that if no coercion were used at the time of the settlement with the landholders, the terms of it would necessarily be just and moderate; and that unless the British troops were required to coerce the Zemindars, the Resident would never consider it to be his duty to inquire at what rate the estate of any landholder was assessed, nor even to seek information from his Excellency regarding the revenue of any part of his dominions: that in cases where the aid of our troops might be required, his Excellency would, of course, in the first instance endeavour to satisfy himself, and would deem it advisable to satisfy the Resident by the production of authenticated documents that the demand to be enforced was a just one, and that beyond this fair and legitimate object, the British Government had no desire whatever to interfere between his Excellency or his Amils and the landholders.

54. A number of messages are stated by the Resident to have passed between him and the Vizier, having reference to this particular question, during two or three days; and on the day on which the despatch to which we are now referring was written, the Resident waited on his Excellency by appointment, and held a conference with him of several hours, which terminated in the Vizier's solemn declaration of his cordial concurrence in the general outline of the reform recommended in the Governor-General's letter of the 28th December 1810, and in all the essential details of it, and a promise, on the part of his Excellency, with every degree of apparent sincerity, to record that concurrence under his seal in a letter to the Governor-General's address, in the terms suggested by the Resident, as soon as a letter could be prepared. The Resident added his Excellency's acquiescence in the other points in discussion, to which we shall hereafter refer.

55. The Resident concludes his despatch in the following words: "On taking leave this morning he (the Vizier) embraced me in the most cordial manner at the door of his palace, where all his native courtiers and a number
" of

* Consultations, 15th October, vide page 510.

† Consultations, 3d May 1811, vide page 183.

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" of English gentlemen were assembled, for the purpose, as he stated to me in private, of demonstrating to his subjects at large the happy result of our conference, and manifesting to all around him that the uneasiness and anxiety of his mind, which had long been apparent to his courtiers, were now entirely removed."

56. In reply to Major Baillie's despatches, the substance of which is above stated, recorded on the annexed date,* after expressing our satisfaction at the intelligence which they contained of the Vizier's assent to the reform and the other points which had been lately agitated, we expressed our anxiety for the receipt of his Excellency's promised reply to Lord Minto's Letter, and our hope that the delay which had occurred in its transmission was not occasioned by any hesitation on the part of his Excellency to confirm, in a direct address to the Governor-General, those assurances which he had so solemnly conveyed to the Resident. We added, that until the receipt of that letter and the Resident's further communications, it would be premature to enter into any detailed remarks on the subject of his late despatches; and we concluded by signifying to Major Baillie our high approbation of the manner in which he had conducted to its apparently favourable stage, a negotiation in which he had received the repeated acknowledgments, approbation, and applause of this Government.

57. On the receipt of the Vizier's letter, accompanied by a further despatch from the Resident,† not however containing any thing relative to the further progress of the negotiation, we perceived with concern, that although acquiescing, in substance, in the several demands contained in Lord Minto's letter of 2d July 1813, that acquiescence was expressed in a tone of sullen reluctance and discontent, calculated to make it appear that it was given solely on the urgent and repeated remonstrances and demands of the British Government, and from an inability on his Excellency's part to resist our urgency. It also referred, in a tone of complaint and discontent, to the delay which had occurred in satisfying his Excellency on the subject of several of his former applications to this Government; a complaint obviously, from the nature of the questions to which they related, made in a spirit of cavil and dissatisfaction, rather than from the importance which he could attach to them at this particular moment.

58. The doubts which the contents of this letter led us to entertain of the sincerity of the Vizier's promises were unfortunately too soon realized by the contents of the despatches from the Resident, to which we have the honour to refer your Honourable Court, as recorded on the proceedings of the annexed dates.‡

59. It cannot be necessary to state in any detail the contents of those despatches which disclose the unfortunate and perverse disposition of his Excellency the Vizier, and afford too much reason to think that the proceedings and declarations reported in the Resident's despatches of the 29th September and 2d of October, were adopted in a spirit of insincerity and deception. However that may be, it was obvious from the despatches of the Resident subsequently received that no hopes could now be entertained of his Excellency's cordial adoption of the measures of reform to which he had given his consent, or of the accomplishment of our views with respect to the other points on which he had recently been urged, without a renewed application of the direct interposition of the Governor-General, with a view to recall his Excellency to a course of proceeding conformable to his pledged faith to the British Government and to his own real interests.

60. On reviewing the former proceedings, however, it appeared to us to be highly probable, that a main cause of the failure of our attempts to carry into effect the reform, was the dissatisfaction which existed in the mind of the Vizier, by the tone of demand and even menace which had been employed in the negotiation, and to the irritation created by urging his Excellency on a variety of points of minor importance, and concerning our right to interfere, in which his Excellency might

* Consultations, 15th October, vide page 542.

† Consultations, 22d October 1813, vide page 542.

‡ Consultations, 23d December 1813 and 7th January, vide pages 551 and 567.

might naturally entertain great doubts. It appeared to us, that by avoiding minor interventions of this description and confining our representations exclusively to matters of real public importance, affecting the essential interests and reputation of both States, we should be the more likely to succeed in the accomplishment of the latter, while by embracing too many objects, our efforts would be constantly exposed to the hazard of failure.

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61. Some of those points which have recently been the subject of negotiation with the Vizier might, under the view here taken, be classed among those which we should not have agitated as questions of State between the British Government and the Vizier; but being in some degree committed to them, it would not be practicable or proper, with reference either to our interest as concerned in the maintenance of our influence at the Court of Lucknow, or to the interests of the parties whose cause we had espoused and whose hopes we had excited, to withdraw from them now, while we determined to avoid to the utmost practicable extent, the agitation of similar questions in future.

62. These were the grounds of the resolution which we adopted when Major Baillie's despatches last referred to came under our consideration; and the result of our deliberations was, that a letter should be addressed by the Governor-General to the Vizier in the spirit of the above remarks.

63. Your Honourable Court will be pleased to observe, that in that letter is included a representation to the Vizier on the subject of the pension which his Excellency promised to pay to Hoosein Alee Khan, the son of Hyder Beg Khan; but which, for the sake of clearness, we reserve for a subsequent part of this despatch. After stating his sentiments and expectations on that subject, the Governor-General proceeded to advert to the question of reform.

64. His Lordship began by remarking, that it was a subject of no common importance in itself, and one on which it was peculiarly expedient that he should address the Vizier in this early stage of his administration. His Lordship then observed, that the Vizier's answer to the late Governor-General's letter of the 2d of July 1813 had expressed a distinct acquiescence, on the part of his Excellency, in the plan of reform recommended in the system of his Government, and conveyed the assurance that it should be immediately undertaken; that Major Baillie had since reported that his Excellency had abandoned this salutary intention, and had shewn a marked disinclination to listen to any of his suggestions referring to that momentous concern. His Lordship stated, that it was his anxious desire and that of his colleagues, that every testimony of attention, and every procedure which could uphold his Excellency's dignity, should be manifested by the British Government; that his Excellency's interests, however, and ours were so inseparably interwoven, that it would be criminal in us did not we offer to him our best advice, in any conjuncture which we might think pregnant with evil for him; that it was on this ground that we had urged his Excellency to adopt arrangements of reform in his dominions (a right of interference secured to us by treaty), as the only mode of avoiding a convulsion not to be quelled but by applications of our force, that would be discreditable for us, and which we consequently could not make for his Excellency's support; that the manner in which our troops had often been called upon to act, in order to dissipate commotions occasioned by the misrule and oppressive conduct of those entrusted with the details of his Excellency's affairs, had extorted frequent remonstrance from this Government; that we felt it dishonourable for the British arms to be employed in supporting injustice, and we must guard against such disgrace.

65 and 66. A sense of mutual interest, his Lordship next observed, had forced the British Government to press this point strongly. There would not, he said, be wanting men around his Excellency, whose advantages would suffer from such a reform. It was natural that they should attempt to disincline his Excellency to the measure, and to the British Government for urging it. They would have no chance of succeeding, his Lordship remarked, were it not that his Excellency's mind might imagine the effect of disregard of our councils would be merely temporary coldness. Such a coldness could not exist, without

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soon degenerating first into estrangement, and then into jealousies and mis-constructions of the most dangerous description. That the ultimate result would be matter of deepest grief to us; to his Excellency it would be ruin. That a contingency so dreadful might be precluded, the Governor-General entreated his Excellency to co-operate with him in manly confidence, to maintain the united interests of the two Governments firm and unshaken. He assured his Excellency, that it should be his study to forbear, as far as his duty would permit, any minor interventions which might be unpleasant to his Excellency, provided he found, on the other hand, that his Excellency entered in earnest on those arrangements, and cordially maintained that conduct, whence we might have the gratification to estimate him as an efficient and zealous ally of the Honourable Company.

67. The object, continued his Lordship, was so serious, that he assured himself his Excellency could not misinterpret the frankness with which his Lordship exposed our relative situations for his Excellency's reflection. On the contrary, the unreserved manner in which his Lordship spoke, ought to satisfy his Excellency that no doubtful sentiments remained concealed, and his Excellency should thence feel his security in a perfect reliance on this Government.

68. His Lordship concluded by stating, that Major Baillie, who possessed his full confidence, was instructed to make this principle the guide of the communications which he would have the honour of holding with his Excellency the Vizier; and by expressing his ardent hope, that his Excellency would prove his correspondence to these dispositions, by the liberal and sincere trust which he would repose in that gentleman. The foregoing letter from the Governor-General to the Vizier, and instructions issued to the Resident under the same date, are recorded on the proceedings noted in the margin.*

69. On the proceedings of the dates noted in the margin† are recorded two despatches from the Resident received shortly after the despatch of the foregoing letter, and the instructions to the Resident which accompanied it, containing translations of the continuation of his correspondence with the Vizier, of which the preceding part is enclosed in the Resident's despatches already referred to in the fifty-eighth paragraph.

70. In a despatch of the 19th February, recorded on the annexed date,‡ the Resident reported his receipt of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier above referred to, together with another, under date the 31st December, relative to the will of Tuhseen Alee Khan, to which we have adverted in the two hundred and twelfth and following paragraphs of our general letter in this department, under date the 31st March last, and his proceedings on the occasion of delivering those letters to the Vizier.

71. Major Baillie prefaced the delivery and perusal of the letters with observations of a conciliatory and friendly nature, calculated to dispose his Excellency's mind to a favourable reception of the representations and demands of the British Government, as expressed in those documents. After referring to the apparently satisfactory termination of all the late discussions, and the unfortunate recurrence of a difference of opinion, and consequent interruption of the harmony which had for a while prevailed between his Excellency and the Resident, Major Baillie observed, that it must be highly satisfactory and gratifying to the Vizier, to perceive in the letters which he was about to present to him a sentiment of cordial friendship, a feeling of personal regard, a disposition to soothe and conciliate, to concede when concession might be practicable, and to abstain from unnecessary interference in the concerns of his Excellency's Government, as well as from controversial discussions to the utmost possible extent, combined with a resolution to give advice on occasions which might require interference, with a view to the mutual benefit of both States or to his Excellency's honour and advantage, and to urge that advice on such occasions (since

* Consultations, 7th January, vide page 579.

† Consultations, 21st January and 4th March, vide pages 582 and 590.

‡ Consultations, 4th March, vide page 596.

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(since to refrain were a dereliction of duty) in terms of dignified firmness, but in the spirit of cordial friendship and with expressions of the sincerest regard.

72. The Resident then proceeded to discuss the question of Tuhseen Alee Khan's property, which, as above stated, has already been reported to your Honourable Court, and then read and delivered the letter relating to the question of reform and the pension to Hoosein Alee Khan.

73. Very little conversation took place on this subject, the Vizier stating his intention to peruse and consider the letter and to appoint an early day for conversing with the Resident.

74. The Resident, in the same letter, reported that although he had not at the date of it received from the Vizier any communication relative either to the reform or to the pension of Hoosein Alee Khan, he was disposed to augur the most salutary effects and impressions on his Excellency's mind from the tenor of the Governor-General's letter on those subjects, and from the friendly and conciliatory observations on his own part with which the delivery of the letter was accompanied, in conformity to our instructions.

75. We signified to the Resident our approbation of the tenor of his observations to the Vizier on the above occasion, and generally of the manner in which he had executed our instructions; but we suspended any further remarks or directions, until we should be apprized of the effect produced on the Vizier's mind by the Governor-General's letter and the proceedings of the Resident.*

76. On the proceedings of the date noted in the margin† is recorded the reply of the Vizier to the Governor-General's letter of the 7th January, together with a letter from his Excellency to the Resident, on the occasion of transmitting it, and the Resident's despatch enclosing the above-mentioned documents, and stating his sentiments and reflections on their contents.

77. In the letter to the Resident, the Vizier stated his intention of adopting a suggestion of the Resident for dividing his territory into districts yielding from two lacs to two lacs and a half of rupees per annum, and placing in charge of these districts Ameens of respectable character with adequate salaries, and over every ten or twelve of such Ameens placing an officer of high rank, respectability, and integrity, with a suitable salary, in the character of Zillahdar; and his Excellency stated, that he would search for proper persons to fill those offices, and having done so would furnish them with instructions to publish proclamations and prepare revenue papers, in the manner desired by the Resident.

78. In reply to the Governor-General, his Excellency commenced by signifying his acquiescence in his Lordship's recommendation relative to Hoosein Alee Khan's pension, as will be noticed hereafter. He then proceeded to reply to that part of the letter which related to the question of reform.

79. It would be difficult, if not impracticable, to give your Honourable Court a correct notion of the spirit and tenor of the Vizier's letter by an abstract of its contents; we must, therefore, request your attention to the document itself recorded as per margin.‡

80. Your Honourable Court will observe, that his Excellency is profuse in expressions of gratitude and attachment to the British Government; that he disclaims the smallest intention to disregard its advice; that he professes to entertain no objection to, or desire to resist the introduction of the plan of reform recommended by Lord Minto; that he rejects the possibility of his being misled by designing men to oppose the wishes of the British Government, and relies with implicit confidence on its zealous and disinterested friendship and regard for his interests and honour; but that he carefully avoids any assurance of undertaking and carrying into effect the arrangements which have so often

* Consultations, 4th March, vide page 603. † Consultations, 25th March, vide page 604.

‡ Consultations, 25th March, vide page 606.

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often been recommended, and which it was a particular object of the Governor-General's last letter to urge him to accede to.

81. The Resident, in his despatch which accompanied the Vizier's letter, observed, that there appeared to him to arise out of his Excellency's letter two questions, on which it would be necessary for him (the Resident) to be furnished with instructions for his guidance; first, the expediency of acquiescing in the mode of conducting the reform, stated in the Vizier's letter to the Resident, above quoted, and referred to in the letter to the Governor-General, and which, in the opinion of Major Baillie, was intended to preclude any useful interference on his part; and secondly, whether the British troops should be employed in support of the measures of the Vizier, having for their professed object a reform in the administration of his revenue, without reference to the justice and expediency or to the real object of those measures.

82. On each of these questions the Resident offered some observations, for which we beg leave to refer to his despatch.* He concluded by stating, that he had abstained from offering any remonstrance to the Vizier on the tenor of his letter to the Governor-General, partly, as he expressed himself, from an idea, combined with a feeble expectation, that the view which he had taken of it might hereafter appear to be erroneous, and partly from a fear of interrupting the harmony which subsisted between his Excellency and himself, and which had been manifested, on the part of his Excellency, by his voluntary and unexpected concession of a few subordinate points on which the Resident had ceased to urge him.

83. On an attentive consideration of the documents above referred to, it appeared to us that although the general tenor of the Vizier's letter to the Governor-General was sufficiently friendly, and professed a disposition on the part of the Vizier to listen to the advice of the British Government, it was impossible not to perceive that his Excellency entertained a decided repugnance to the particular plan of reform, which, in consequence of his own request, was submitted to him by the Earl of Minto, in his Lordship's letter of the 28th of December 1810, and to any modification of it commensurate with the sentiments and wishes of the British Government on that important point. Every mode of argument, exhortation, and warning, every appeal to his Excellency's pride, judgment, humanity, and love of justice, had been resorted to in vain to obtain his acquiescence in that particular plan of reform which the British Government had considered and declared to be, according to its belief, the only effectual remedy for the disorders of his Excellency's administration. We could no longer, then, entertain hopes of success from any further endeavours short of compulsion, to carry that measure in the precise form in which it had hitherto been urged.

84. While we lamented the perverse and unenlightened policy which induced the Vizier to reject that system of administration recommended to his adoption by the British Government, and which his own experience of its success in the Ceded Provinces might enable him correctly to appreciate, it did not appear to us that, under a just and fair construction of the obligations of the alliance, we were entitled to proceed to the only measure of a compulsory nature which was ever suggested, namely, a renewal and direct demand, founded on the stipulations of the treaty, accompanied by a menace of withholding the aid of the British troops in support of his Excellency's authority, in case of his refusal.

85. The arguments employed in the instructions issued by the late Governor-General in Council on a like occasion, of which the substance is stated in the one hundred and fifty-third and following paragraphs of the despatch to your Honourable Court under date the 15th October 1811, appeared to us to be precisely applicable to the state at which the negotiation had now arrived, and they were strengthened and confirmed by the renewed failure of every attempt to influence the judgment and feelings of the Vizier. Even admitting that his Excellency was induced by a repetition of our demands, whether accom-

* Consultations, 25th March, vide page 604.

accompanied or not by such a menace, to give a reluctant assent to the measure generally, it was obvious to us that no vigilance or care would suffice to prevent him, if so disposed, from frustrating it in detail, without a complete infraction of that part of the stipulation which provides that the reform shall be carried into effect by his Excellency and through his own officers.

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86. The conclusion was inevitable, namely, that the specific plan of reform proposed to the Vizier by Lord Minto must be relinquished, or insisted on as the alternative of a resolution on our part, which would amount to a dissolution of the existing relations between the two States. The principles of justice and good faith, as well as of political expediency, forbade the adoption of the latter course, and thus imposed on our minds the necessity of desisting from the further prosecution of the object.

87. While, however, the relinquishment of the specific plan of reform above referred to was unavoidable, it by no means followed that the hope of introducing a reform into his Excellency's administration from which considerable practical benefit might arise need be abandoned. There could, indeed, be no doubt that a plan abstractedly of inferior ability and efficacy, in which the Vizier should cordially concur, would in practice produce the beneficial results contemplated by the British Government, better than the most judicious system of regulations which his Excellency might ostensibly adopt and secretly counteract.

88. We were happy to observe, that the tenor of the Vizier's letter to the Governor-General afforded an opening for renewing the negotiation on this footing; and the Governor-General accordingly addressed a reply to his Excellency, conceived in terms which were calculated to encourage his Excellency to open his mind to the Resident, and to state his own views in such a manner as to lay a foundation for the discussion, and eventual adoption of a plan, which though not embracing the full scope of the wise and beneficial system which had been recommended to him, might yet combine the advantages of a considerable practicable improvement in the conduct of his administration and the condition of his subjects, with a cordial disposition, on his own part, to give it full effect.

89. The letter addressed to his Excellency by the Governor-General on this occasion is recorded on the annexed date,* and we request the particular attention of your Honourable Court to its contents. We accompanied the transmission to the Resident of an English copy of that letter with instructions, in which we stated our view of the question, and our consequent resolution, as conveyed in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier.

90. We directed the Resident to accompany the delivery of the letter with a discourse on his own part adapted to the spirit of its contents, and to endeavour, by every method of courtesy and conciliation, to engage his Excellency to throw off that reserve which must ever be an obstacle to the success of any plan, and appears to have been fostered by the controversial turn which the former discussions concerning the reform unfortunately but unavoidably assumed.

91. The footing on which it was our desire that the negotiation should be recommended, would not, we observed, tend, as the former naturally did, to generate asperity, both of sentiment and expression, which unknown to the parties engaged in the discussion must imperceptibly and unavoidably mix in a long protracted controversy, animated on one side by a sense of wounded pride, jealousy, and apprehension of the loss of independent authority, and of the means of gratifying the passion of cupidity; and on the other, by the more honorable feelings of ardent and honest zeal for the reputation of the allied Governments and the interests of humanity.

92. We stated that the object of the Resident's endeavours should be, and we were satisfied would be, to acquire the Vizier's confidence, by shewing his Excellency that he was not seeking to force any particular measures on him, but was desirous of knowing what the Vizier himself proposed, that the Resident might co-operate with his Excellency in the details if the

general

* Consultations, 25th March, vide page 610.

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general system were calculated to meet the object in view, or state to him frankly the inefficacy of his plan if it should be really delusive.

93. We particularly dwelt on the advantage of abstaining from the expression of any suspicions of the Vizier's sincerity. The indication of such a feeling must, we observed, necessarily destroy all confidence, while by awakening his pride and interest to the importance of acting up to the professions which he had made in his letter to the Governor General, the ends of Government might be attained, if not to the utmost desirable extent, at least to such a degree as to ensure considerable practical benefit.

94. We added, that while we were prepared to give up the attempt to prevail on the Vizier to adopt the particular system of administration which we were desirous that he should adopt, and to be satisfied with one of a more imperfect character, it would still be essential to maintain in its full force the right of the British Government to satisfy itself of the propriety of affording the aid of its troops in support of the authority of his Excellency or the officers of his Government. The objections to the abandonment or compromise of this right, under any circumstances short of the actual introduction into the Vizier's dominions of a plan of administration which would preclude the hazard of the British troops being called on to act in support of oppression and injustice, are too obvious to require to be stated.

95. We concluded by expressing our reliance on the exertion by the Resident of his utmost skill, address, and discretion, for the accomplishment of our views, described in the foregoing paragraphs and in the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier. Our instructions to the Resident are recorded on the proceedings noted in the margin.*

96. On the Proceedings of the date noted in the margin† is recorded a despatch from the Resident, in which he acknowledges the receipt of our instructions of the 25th March, with an English copy of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier of the same date.

97. Major Baillie, after observing that he had repeatedly, in the course of his discussions with the Vizier, invited his Excellency to propose a plan of his own, and had earnestly entreated him to communicate his sentiments with freedom on any part of Lord Minto's plan which he might deem objectionable, states it to be his opinion, that the repugnance manifested by the Vizier to the reform was to the principle of the measure, and not to any specific plan, nor to the details of the system proposed to him. Major Baillie adds, that the alternative of suggesting a plan of his own to be substituted for that proposed by Lord Minto, although frequently offered by him (the Resident), had never yet formed the subject of a direct address to the Vizier from the Governor-General, and that he predicted a good effect from the impression on his Excellency's mind of an offer so liberal and friendly, conveyed directly to his Excellency by the Governor-General, and accompanied by a resolution to adhere to the spirit of the declaration which was formerly conveyed to his Excellency, relative to the employment of British troops in supporting the demands of his Aumils.

98. We have since learned by a private communication from the Resident, that he had delivered to the Vizier the Governor-General's letter of the 25th, but that his Excellency had declined, on account of indisposition, to enter into a discussion on the subject of the interview at which it was presented.

99. Here, we presume, the negotiation must be suspended, until his Excellency shall come forward with his plan of reform; and we shall, therefore, for the present close the narrative of our proceedings, intending to resume it at a future period.

100. We now proceed to advert to the other questions which have lately been agitated at the Court of the Vizier.

101. Of

* Consultations, 25th March, vide page 608.

† Consultations, 18th May, vide page 611.

101. Of those subjects of negotiation pending with the Vizier, reported in the despatches of the Governor-General in Council of the 15th October 1811 and of subsequent dates, some have been satisfactorily adjusted.

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102. In the two hundred and eighty-eighth and following paragraphs of the despatch of the 15th June 1813 in this department, the final consent of the Vizier to the employment of our troops stationed in Oude in the pursuit and apprehension of banditti and other offenders flying from the adjacent districts in the Honourable Company's dominions for refuge within the territory of the Vizier, an arrangement to which a high degree of importance has always been attached, was duly reported to your Honourable Court, together with the substance of the antecedent correspondence and negotiation which terminated in that satisfactory result. The Governor-General expressed to the Vizier, in his letters of the 5th of March and 2d July, the gratification experienced by the British Government at his Excellency's ultimate compliance with our urgent representations on this subject. No complaints having reached us, on either side, relative to the operation of this arrangement, we have every reason to hope that it has been found to answer the purpose for which it was adopted. The improvement which it is calculated to effect in the police of the neighbouring districts is too manifest to require observation.

103. Your Honourable Court will have observed in many parts of the correspondence with the Resident at Lucknow, and especially in his despatch of the 31st August 1812, recorded as per margin,* reference made to complaints on the part of native officers and sepoys in the Honourable Company's service, of acts of injustice and violence committed against them by the Vizier's officers. The difficulty which these unfortunate and aggrieved persons experienced in finding redress, formed the subject of repeated remonstrances to the Vizier by the Resident. We do not think it necessary to recur to the specific cases; but your Honourable Court will have the satisfaction to observe, that the Vizier ultimately suggested a mode of settling questions of this nature, which met with our entire concurrence, and may, we hope, be the means of preventing or affording speedy and substantial redress for such grievances in future. His Excellency's proposition was, that the case should be decided on the oath of the party aggrieved; and he engaged, in all cases of urgency so substantiated, to compel his officers to make compensation, or otherwise render justice.†

104. The disputes which existed between his Excellency the Vizier and their Highnesses the Bhow Begum and Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, have also been either terminated or put in a train of adjustment. We propose to submit to your Honourable Court a summary of our proceedings in the case of each of these ladies, in fulfilment of the assurance expressed in the despatch from this department of the 15th June 1813 and 31st of March last.

105. The differences between the Vizier and the Bhow Begum related, first, to the superintendents of the khass and khoord muhl of the late Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah and the management of the jaidad assigned for their support; secondly, to the vexatious and unwarrantable encroachments and aggressions of the Vizier's Aumils on the lands composing the jaidad and her Highness's personal jagiers.

106. In the two hundred and fifty-sixth paragraph of a despatch of the 15th October 1812, the Governor-General in Council had the honour to apprise your Honourable Court of the restoration of Tuhseen Alee Khan to the office of Nazir of the khoord muhl, from which he had unjustly, and in direct violation of the rights of the Begum, as guaranteed by the Honourable Company, been displaced by the Vizier.

107. The re-appointment of Tuhseen was not made without manifest signs of reluctance on the part of the Vizier, who is stated by the Resident, in the despatch recorded as per margin,‡ to have carried the arrangement into effect in a manner the most ungracious, and to have either encouraged or connived at the intrigues

* Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 409. † Consultations, 15th May 1813, vide page 406.

‡ Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 412.

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intrigues of interested persons, to excite some of the women of the khoord muhl to resist the authority of Tuhseen and the deputy whom he appointed to act on his behalf.

108. These women, on pretence of grievances sustained at the hands of Tuhseen and his deputy, and of serious curtailment of their allowance (for which there was some foundation, originating, however, in the measures of the Vizier himself), excited the utmost degree of clamour and disturbance at Fyzabad; and a number of them actually departed from that city, in defiance of decency and decorum, and proceeded to Lucknow, from whence they declared they would not depart until these alleged grievances should be redressed.

109. Her Highness the Begum addressed a letter to the Governor-General, which is recorded on the proceedings of the date noted in the margin,* representing the dissensions and intrigues in the khoord muhl, and claiming the good offices of the British Government in suppressing them and maintaining Tuhseen Alee Khan in his office, and herself in the rights which she derived from public engagements between the British Government and the Vizier.

110. Before the pressure of business enabled the Governor-General to reply to her Highness, the efforts of the Resident, and a returning sense of justice and propriety on the part of the Vizier, effected a suppression of the disturbances. Tuhseen Alee Khan was firmly established in the office of Nazir, under the authority of the Begum, and the women who had proceeded to Lucknow made their submission to Tuhseen and returned to Fyzabad.

111. The despatches from the Resident in which the progress and termination of this affair are reported are recorded on the proceedings of the annexed dates.†

112. In a former part of this despatch we have referred to the Vizier's letter to the Governor-General on the subject of the Bhow Begum's complaints, and his own charges against her Highness, the latter of which are frivolous in the extreme. His Excellency's letter is recorded on the annexed date;‡ but as the disputes to which it refers were in the end satisfactorily adjusted, we do not deem it necessary to make any more detailed observations on the subject.

113. It is proper, however, to refer your Honourable Court to a letter from the Begum to the Governor-General recorded as per margin,§ and another from her Highness to the Resident, stating at length the oppressions and encroachments of the Vizier's Aumils on the lands of her jagier, and to a despatch from the Resident reporting the restitution to her Highness's officers of nineteen villages which had been usurped by the Vizier's Aumil of Baraitch, and his Excellency's agreement to submit the remaining points at issue between himself and the Begum to the arbitration of the Resident, and to abide by his award.

114. We experienced great satisfaction from this result, which derives a degree of importance, disproportioned perhaps to the immediate objects in debate, from the manner in which the public faith of the British Government is, as is known to your Honourable Court, involved in the maintenance of the just rights of the Begum. The satisfaction of Government on this occasion was expressed to the Vizier in Lord Minto's letter to his Excellency of the 2d of July 1813. The Governor-General also addressed a letter to the Begum, to the same effect, on that date.||

115. No differences have since arisen between his Excellency and the Begum, as far as we are informed.

116. In the two hundred and eighty-fifth and following paragraphs of the despatch of the 15th October 1812, the Governor-General in Council reported to your Honourable Court the proceedings of this Government with relation to her

* Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 434.

† Consultations, 25th June, and 4th July 1812; 8th January, and 2d July 1813, vide pages 291, 298, 321, and 409, *et seq.*

‡ Consultations, 2d July 1813, vide page 443.

§ Consultations, 2d July, vide pages 474, 493, and 495.

|| Consultations, 2d July, vide pages 506 and 512.

her Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum (the widow of the Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah) up to that date, including the instructions issued to the Resident to endeavour to effect a commutation of her Highness's jagier for a fixed payment in money.

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117. In pursuance of her Highness's declared intention, she quitted the dominions of his Excellency the Vizier and retired to Elahabad, where every arrangement for her honourable reception and comfortable accommodation had been previously concerted between the Resident and the Magistrate, and where her Highness continues to reside.

118. Before her Highness's departure, every effort was made by the Resident to effect a reconciliation between the Vizier and the Begum; but owing to the unkindness and illiberality of the Vizier, on the one hand, and the strong sense of resentment felt by the Begum at his Excellency's conduct on the other, it was impracticable to restore even the appearance of harmony between them, or to prevent the Begum from departing from his Excellency's dominions.

119. It is unnecessary to occupy the time of your Honourable Court by a recital of the particulars of the quarrel between her Highness and the Vizier, or of the negotiation of the Resident with both those personages, for the purpose of composing these differences and inducing the Vizier to adopt a more generous and friendly conduct towards his sister-in-law, a lady of the highest rank and most respectable character and conduct.

120. The Resident's despatches, together with the letters addressed by the Nawaub and the Begum to the late Governor-General, and his Lordship's reply are recorded as per margin.*

121. The Vizier assented without much difficulty to the proposed commutation of the jagier for a fixed stipend; an arrangement which was also extended to the khassa or allowance of provisions furnished to the Begum and her household from his Excellency's kitchen. Considerable difficulty was, however, experienced in adjusting the details of this arrangement, from the difficulty of reconciling the statements of his Excellency the Vizier and the Begum of the value of the two objects of commutation. They have at length been adjusted by the zealous exertions of the Resident, in a manner which, though not equal to the just expectations of the Begum, will yet afford her liberal means of support, while a more favourable arrangement could not be effected without considerable difficulty. It is proposed, that the amount at which her Highness's stipend has been fixed, viz. Sicca Rupees 7,263 per mensem, shall be paid to her Highness from the treasury of the Collector of Elahabad, an equal sum being received by the Resident at Lucknow from the Vizier.

122. One claim of the Begum on the Vizier still remains unadjusted, viz. the restitution of certain lands, houses, and gardens at Delhi, which belonged to her Highness's ancestors and have been assumed by the Vizier. The satisfaction of this claim constituted one of the demands contained in the late Governor-General's letter to the Vizier of the 2d of July 1813, and his Excellency's assent to it, with a reservation of certain rights of her brother stated to be founded on the Mohummudan law, was communicated to this Government in the Resident's despatch recorded on the annexed date.† We request, however, to add, that the promise remains unfulfilled.

123. The recovery of these possessions will, of course, continue to be an object of the Resident's attention under his instructions.

124. The only remaining points of negotiation with his Excellency the Vizier to which it is necessary for us to solicit the attention of your Honourable Court are, first, the claim of Moonshree Alee Nuckee Khan to the restitution of certain hereditary possessions seized by the Vizier's Aumil of the district of Sandee, and payment of the rents and profits arising from those possessions, while he was deprived of them; and, secondly, the case of Hoosein Alee Khan.

125. The

* Consultations, 30th October, 1812 and 26th February, 2d and 30th July 1813; vide pages 320, 359, and 435 et seq.

† Consultations, 15th October 1813, vide page 534.

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from Bengal,
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125. The claims of Alee Nuckee Khan, and the representation which the British Government judged it proper to address to the Vizier with a view to obtain justice for him, were first brought to the notice of your Honourable Court in the one hundred and forty-second and one hundred and forty-third paragraphs of a despatch from the Vice-President in Council in this department, under date the 27th of July 1811; and in the two hundred and twelfth paragraph of the letter of the 11th of June 1812, the Governor-General in Council reported the renewal of his Lordship in Council's instances in behalf of the Moonshee in the letter addressed by his Lordship to the Vizier on the 8th of May of that year.

126. The unremitting efforts of the Resident to obtain from the Vizier an order to his Aumil of Sandee to restore to Alee Nuckee the lands and other possessions, his right to which could not be disputed, being unavailing, the late Governor-General deemed it proper to bring the subject again under the notice of the Vizier, and to call on his Excellency to do justice to this much-injured individual, in his letter to the Vizier of the 2d of July 1813, where the principal facts of the case are recapitulated, and his Excellency is solemnly called on to see justice done to the Moonshee, who as being a servant of the British Government was considered to possess a claim to the support of that Government in a case of gross and manifest injustice.

127. The result of that appeal to his Excellency was the restitution of the greater part of the Moonshee's property, although complete restitution is still withheld. The orders of the Vizier were reported to us in the despatch from the Resident recorded on the date noted in the margin.*

128. The proceedings of the Resident in this case are reported in the several despatches from the Resident and the correspondence with the Vizier recorded in the dates noted in the margin,† which have been already referred to in drawing the notice of your Honourable Court to the other points depending with his Excellency the Vizier.

129. The origin of the interference of the British Government in the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, and the ill success of his endeavours to obtain justice for that unfortunate person and the other members of the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan, from whom their patrimony was withheld by the elder brother, Akbur Alee Khan, are already before your Honourable Court, in the letters from this department under dates the 8th February 1808, 30th October 1810, and 27th July 1811; and in the fourteenth paragraph of the latter despatch is reported the substance of a letter addressed by the Vice-President (General Hewett) to the Vizier, calling on his Excellency to restore to Hoosein Alee Khan and the indigent members of the family the pension of one lac of rupees per annum enjoyed by the family of Hyder Beg Khan until the accession of the Vizier, as the only means of relieving their distress.

130. In the Governor-General's letter of the 8th of May, the case of Hoosein Alee Khan is again pressed on the Vizier, as one in which every consideration of justice, honour, and humanity, demanded a favourable decision. The Governor-General also stated to his Excellency, that as the British Government had, at his Excellency's express desire, taken an active part in this affair, his Lordship was thereby so pointedly engaged, that he could not cease from troubling his Excellency on the subject, until either a due proportion of the family property should be made over to Hoosein Alee Khan, or the provision originally granted to the family should have been restored and assigned for the support of that much-injured person. His Lordship added, that as the facts derived from his Excellency's own representations precluded all expectation of the former, the adoption of the latter arrangement became indispensably just and necessary.

131. The

* Consultations, 15th October, vide page 540.

† Consultations, 8th May 1812; 15th May, 2d July, 17th September, and 15th and 22d October 1813; and 7th and 21st January 1814; vide pages 283, 395, 409, 527, 534, 542, 567, and 582.

131. The Vizier's reply to this part of the Governor-General's letter, and the reports of the Resident of his endeavours to obtain a favourable answer, are recorded on the proceedings to which such frequent reference has already been made.

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from Bengal,
18 May 1814.

132. It was obvious that the Vizier was entirely indisposed to pay the slightest attention to the urgent and reiterated representations of the British Government in favour of Hoosein Alee Khan, and the Governor-General in Council considering himself called on, both by the circumstances of the case and the share already taken in it by the British Government, at the express invitation of the Vizier, to pursue the subject with unabated perseverance, his Lordship recurred in his letter to his Excellency of the 2d July 1813, to the situation of Hoosein Alee Khan, and his claims on the justice and humanity of the Vizier.

133. In that letter Lord Minto declared his unalterable conviction of the right of Hoosein Alee Khan to the restoration of the pension granted to the family of Hyder Beg Khan by the late Vizier Asuf-ood-Dowlah, through the mediation of Lord Cornwallis, and enjoyed until the accession of the present Vizier. His Lordship remarked, that his deliberate judgment on this point had been recently stated to the Vizier by the Resident in a letter to his Excellency, to which he had made no reply. His Lordship stated,* that the actual grant of the stipend, and the receipt of it by the family till his Excellency's accession, were capable of the most undoubted proof, and that the Resident had repeatedly declared his readiness to prove the facts, either by a reference to the records of the Residency, or by the evidence on oath of respectable inhabitants of Lucknow; that his Excellency's ignorance, therefore, of the circumstance of the original grant, the only ground on which he had refused the restoration of the stipend, might be removed at his pleasure.

134. His Lordship added, that he considered himself entitled, under the specific authority which the British Government derived from the Vizier's letter to Mr. Wellesley of the 26th of October 1801, which will be in the recollection of your Honourable Court to call on his Excellency to restore to this unfortunate family the means of subsistence of which they had so long been deprived, without any ground of alleged misconduct, excepting in the case of the elder brother, Akbur Alee Khan, whose disgraceful and inhuman conduct towards his brother only constituted an additional and most powerful argument for the restoration of the stipend in favour of the latter, and of those branches of the family who were left in a condition of distress by Akbur Alee's unjust appropriation of the property of his deceased father.

135. The Governor-General concluded by again referring the Vizier to the Vice-President's letter of 15th March 1811, and informing his Excellency that the Resident was instructed to renew his instances to the Vizier on the subject, and that it was the hope and expectation of his Lordship that his Excellency would attend to the Resident's representations.

136. In deliberating on this subject, it occurred to the Governor-General in Council that if the repugnance of the Vizier to restore the stipend to the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan continued to be insurmountable, it would be for the interest of Hoosein Alee Khan to accept a compromise, by receiving from his Excellency, for his own use and that of his immediate family, a proportion (one-fourth for example) of the original stipend; and the Resident was therefore authorized to accede to an arrangement framed on this principle, if he should judge it to be advisable.

137. The agreement of the Vizier to grant to Hoosein Alee Khan and the other indigent members of the family of Hyder Beg Khan a stipend of two thousand rupees per mensem, is reported in the letter from the Resident to which we have already so often referred,† as containing the apparently happy termination of the negotiation renewed by the Resident on the basis of the Governor-General's letter of the 2d of July 1813.

138. We

* Consultations, 15th May 1813, vide page 404.

† Consultations, 15th October 1813, vide page 540.

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from Bengal,
18 May 1814.

138. We have already solicited the attention of your Honourable Court to the Vizier's reply to Lord Minto's letter, as referring to the question of reform.

139. On reverting to that part of his Excellency's letter* which contains his reply to the application in favour of Hoosein Alee Khan, your Honourable Court will observe that his Excellency, after again disclaiming the rights of Hoosein Alee Khan to the pension, and repeating his ignorance of the original grant, the enjoyment of it by the family of Hyder Beg Khan or the subsequent resumption, states that being sincerely disposed to promote the Governor-General's satisfaction to the utmost of his power, he had, at the suggestion of Major Baillie, assigned the sum of two thousand rupees per mensem "for the maintenance and support of *all the surviving members of the family of the late Hyder Beg Khan*"

140. It is superfluous to observe to your Honourable Court, that the object of the original interposition of the British Government in the affairs of the family of Hyder Beg Khan, was the restitution by Akbur Alee Khan to his brother of a share of the property of their father, which the former had unjustly appropriated; and that on the failure of this primary object through the contumacy of Akbur Alee Khan and the unjust partiality of the Vizier, the efforts of the Government were directed to obtain from his Excellency, as the only other mode of redressing the wrongs of Hoosein Alee Khan, the restoration, in favour of that person and the other indigent members of the family, of the whole or a part of the pension originally assigned for the whole of the family and resumed by the Vizier.

141. The compliance of his Excellency could, therefore, only be received by us as referring to a provision for Hoosein Alee Khan, and the other indigent branches of the family, to the exclusion of Akbur Alee Khan, whose unjust and cruel conduct to his brother and the rest of the family alone gave rise to the discussion. His Excellency alleged that he complied with the letter of Lord Minto's application, which he stated was for the restoration of the allowance to the family of Hyder Beg Khan, including, as his Excellency argued, the wife and family of Akbur Alee; but this interpretation of Lord Minto's words is rejected by the whole tenor of the correspondence and proceedings on the subject.

142. Your Honourable Court will therefore learn, with no less surprise than we did, that when the Resident came to discuss the details of the arrangement with the Vizier, his Excellency not only refused to confirm the distribution of the pension of two thousand rupees per mensem, proposed by the Resident on the above principles, but actually withheld the pension for a period of two months after his assent was given, on the plea that a portion of it should be appropriated to the family of Akbur Alee Khan, which notoriously stood in no need of the assistance. A correspondence took place between the Vizier and the Resident on this subject, recorded on the annexed date,† in which it appears to us the Resident successfully combated the arguments of his Excellency, and demonstrated that the distribution which his Excellency proposed to make of the pension was manifestly at variance with the whole spirit and intent of our representations to him. The result was, that his Excellency paid into the hands of the Resident the arrears of the pension from the date of the grant; but Major Baillie did not think it proper to disburse the amount, after what had passed, without our sanction, and accordingly referred the question for instructions.

143. In a despatch afterwards received from the Resident, that officer reported that the Vizier had produced a demand against Hoosein Alee Khan, for the amount of sums advanced to him at various times pending the discussion of his case, to relieve his own immediate necessities, and also for the amount of a bond given by Hoosein Alee Khan to the late Almass Alee, which was afterwards declared to be a gift, and that his Excellency demanded payment of these sums from Hoosein Alee Khan; a measure which would virtually amount to a recall of the late grant, since the sum demanded was equal to the amount of the pension for several years to come.

144. Before

* Consultations, 7th January 1814, vide page 572.

† Consultations, 7th January 1814, vide page 567.

144. Before we received the despatch from the Resident last referred to, we had deliberated on his former despatch relative to the distribution of the pension, and had issued instructions on the subject to Major Baillie.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
18 May 1814.

145. We signified to Major Baillie our entire approbation of the distribution of the pension proposed by him, as being in strict conformity to the views and intentions of this Government in urging the grant. We remarked, that the Vizier could not, at any period of the negotiation, have misunderstood those views and intentions, as was evident from the whole tenor of the correspondence and conferences which had passed on the subject, and that his Excellency's attempt to divert from its proper object, a portion of the allowances which he had at last yielded to the urgent representations of the British Government, and his suspension of the payment of the pension for two months, with the view of applying a portion of it to the maintenance of the family of Akbur Alee Khan, were matter of great surprise and concern to us.

146. It appeared to be proper, on this occasion, for the Governor-General to address a letter to the Vizier, pointing out the erroneous interpretation which his Excellency had given to that passage of Lord Minto's letter of 2d July 1813 which related to the case of Hoosein Alee Khan, and to confirm and enforce the arguments employed by the Resident in the letter which he had addressed to the Vizier on the subject.

147. We have already in the sixty-eighth paragraph of this despatch, adverted to the letter addressed by the Governor-General to the Vizier on this occasion, as far as it related to the question of reform. The manner and tone which the Governor-General took in addressing his Excellency on the subject of the pension to Hoosein Alee Khan, were regulated by the same spirit of conciliation and mildness by which we now hope to obtain the cordial concurrence of the Vizier in those measures which we should deem of such paramount importance to the interests of both States, as properly to form the subject of discussion between his Excellency and this Government.

148. The Governor-General observed to his Excellency, that when the strong claim which Hoosein Alee Khan had on his bounty was urged to his Excellency by the British Government, that Government could have no interest in the step, but that which it ever must take in all that involved his Excellency's renown and honour; that, in fact, the representation made to his Excellency in behalf of Hoosein Alee Khan was not spontaneous, having been invited by the reference which his Excellency had made to the British Government on the subject, a reference which indicated that his Excellency contemplated the matter correspondently to our view of it, that on this view of it the British Government could not but earnestly encourage his Excellency's disposition; that this Government felt how much the general opinion of his Excellency's and the Honourable Court's subjects would necessarily be swayed by his procedure towards the family of Hyder Beg Khan, and thence thought itself entitled to persevere strenuously in pressing the adoption of a measure so highly calculated to advance a reputation which we wish never to separate from our own.

149. His Lordship then proceeded to demonstrate, that the passage in Lord Minto's letter, to which his Excellency had referred, never could be intended to countenance any pretension on the part of the immediate family of Akbur Alee Khan to share in the pension, and disavowed, in the name of the Government, any such intention. His Lordship added, that he indulged an earnest hope, that after this explanation his Excellency would deem it consonant to his exalted character to confirm and issue the provision for the family of Hoosein Alee Khan in the manner requested by Major Baillie, without making any allotment out of it for the family of Akbur Alee Khan.

150. The remainder of the Governor-General's letter related to the reform, and has already been submitted to the notice of your Honourable Court. The

Political Letter
from Bengal,
16 May 1814.

Governor-General's letter, and the corresponding instructions to the Resident, are recorded on the proceedings of the annexed date.*

151. In the reply which the Vizier addressed to the Governor-General, a translation of which is recorded on the date noted in the margin,† his Excellency signified his compliance with the desire expressed by the Governor-General relative to the distribution of the pension, and stated that he had issued orders for carrying it into effect.

152. In the answer which the Governor-General addressed to the Vizier,‡ in that part of his Excellency's letter which related to the reform as already submitted to your Honourable Court, his Lordship took occasion to express to his Excellency that he sincerely felt the eagerness with which his Excellency had seized the opportunity of doing what he believed would be acceptable to his Lordship respecting the family of Hoosein Alee Khan, and stated that he had derived real satisfaction in the measure adopted by his Excellency, because he knew that it would redound to his Excellency's reputation.

153. We are concerned to state, that notwithstanding the apparently frank and cordial compliance with our representation in favour of Hoosein Alee Khan, unaccompanied by any condition but that of Hoosein Alee Khan's attendance on the Vizier, which had been punctually complied with, his Excellency has again brought forward his demand for repayment of the sums adverted to in the one hundred and forty-third paragraph of this despatch, and has signified to the Resident his determination to make no payment on account of the pension until these demands are liquidated. This circumstance is reported in the Resident's despatch already referred to in the ninety-sixth paragraph of this despatch, and recorded on the annexed date.§

154. We have not yet determined what step to take in this affair, which has mortified us extremely; but we are not altogether without hopes that his Excellency may yet adopt a more liberal and handsome procedure, in place of this apparent mockery and delusive reparation to the unfortunate object of our solicitude.

We have, &c.

Fort-William,
18th May 1814.

(Signed)

MOIRA,
G. NUGENT,
N. B. EDMONSTON,
A. SETON.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER to BENGAL,

Dated the 30th September 1814.

Letter from, dated 1st March 1812. (147 to 149.) Complaints of the Begum, Shums-oon-Nissa, widow of the late Asuf-ood-Dowlah, against the oppressive conduct towards her of the Vizier. } Par. 53. We are much concerned to observe by the letters from the Resident at Lucknow, referred to in these paragraphs, and in your subsequent despatches of the 11th of June (paragraphs 205 and 206), and 15th of October 1812 (paragraphs 285 to 293), that the series of oppressive conduct, on the part of the Nawaub Vizier, towards his sister-in-law, Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, widow of the late Asuf-ood-Dowlah, has at length, in spite of your remonstrances to the Vizier, compelled that lady to quit Lucknow, and retire to her jagier. We shall be happy to hear, that through your mediation an arrangement has been concluded with the Vizier, on the terms suggested in your last mentioned despatch, whereby the future ease and comfort of her Highness may be secured from the possibility of any adverse interference on the part of his Excellency.

164. The

* Consultations, 7th January, vide page 579.

† Consultations, 25th March, vide page 606.

‡ Consultations, 25th March, vide page 610.

§ Consultations, 18th May, vide page 611.

|| That the collections from her jagier should be guaranteed by Government and remitted to her, after the discharge of such salaries as she should appoint, and that the provisions provided for her use from the Vizier's kitchen should be commuted for a money payment.

Letter from, 11th June 1812. (182 to 183.) Relating to robberies committed in the districts of Elahabad and Goruckpore, by persons taking refuge in the Vizier's dominions.

164. The proceedings to which you have drawn our attention in these paragraphs, and in your subsequent despatch of the 15th of October 1812, (paragraphs 252 to 281), on the subject of the robberies committed in the Company's districts by persons who took refuge in the neighbouring territories of his Excellency the Vizier, have been perused. We notice the frequent and urgent representations which have been made to the Vizier, in order to obtain his Excellency's authority for the apprehension of those marauders, who in some instances are said to be under the protection of his own Zemindars and officers, and we trust that success has ultimately attended the arrangements which were proposed to his Excellency's adoption for the more speedy apprehension of such marauders in future. In the measures which were thus suggested to the Vizier's consideration, we observe with satisfaction that you cautiously avoided any act which would afford to his Excellency even a plausible ground for complaining of a breach of treaty.

165. The Vizier, during his correspondence with the Resident upon the subject of the preceding paragraph, having disputed the right of the British Government to ascertain the justice of the cause in which the subsidiary troops might be required to act, we approve of your having directed the Resident to maintain that right, until you have determined what measures it may be advisable to pursue, with a view either to the efficient exercise of the right in question, or to the more fundamental object of a reform in the system of his Excellency's administration.

166. We have the satisfaction to find, that his Excellency the Vizier has at length signified his acquiescence in the indispensable measure of authorizing the employment of British troops on the requisition of the magistrates of contiguous districts for the seizure of public offenders, and that the principal condition annexed to his Excellency's concurrence in the arrangement is not likely to affect the efficacy of the measures to be pursued.

(184 to 197). Measures adopted for the apprehension of the notorious rebel, Budjha Sing.

167. We have great satisfaction in observing, by the documents referred to in these paragraphs, and in the two hundred and sixty-fourth and two hundred and sixty-fifth paragraphs of your letter of the 15th October 1812, that from the ready acquiescence, on the part of the Vizier, in the measures recommended by the Resident, there is at length some prospect of the apprehension of the rebel, Budjha Sing.

(198 to 204, and 216 and 217). Relative to the Vizier's removal of Tuhseen Alee Khan from his office to Nazir of the khoord mahl.

168. We observe, by the two hundred and sixty-fifth paragraph of your letter of the 15th of October 1812, that Tuhseen Alee Khan had been restored to his office.

(205, 206). Vizier's persecution of the Begum Shums-oon-Nissu, &c.

169. Already noticed in para. 53.

(207 to 215). Referring to the Governor-General's letter of remonstrance to the Vizier of the 8th May 1812, urging him to adopt a line of conduct more creditable to himself and more consistent with the obligations of existing treaties.

170. We very highly approve of the general tenor and purport of the Governor-General's letter of remonstrance to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier of the 8th of May 1812. Nothing could afford us greater pleasure, than the information that his Excellency has, in consequence, adopted a line of conduct more creditable to himself, and more consistent with the obligations of existing Treaties; and that the Resident at his Court has been successful in his endeavours to bring to a satisfactory conclusion the numerous depending questions between the two Governments.

Political Letter to Bengal, 30 Sept. 1814.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *to* BENGAL,*Dated the 6th January 1815.*

Letter from, dated 15th June 1813 (288 to 306). On the subject of an arrangement for the suppression of gang robbery. } 59. This subject was noticed in the one hundred and sixty-sixth paragraph of our Political Despatch of the 30th September 1814.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *to* BENGAL,*Dated the 19th May 1815.*

Letter from, dated 1st October 1813, (290 to 293). Respecting the disposal of the property of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, a servant of the Vizier. } Par. 101. Having maturely considered the proceedings referred to in these paragraphs, and in the two hundred and twelfth and following paragraphs of your despatch in this department of the 31st of March 1814, respecting the disposal of the property of the late Tuhseen Alee Khan, a servant of the Vizier, we entirely approve of your ultimate determination herein, by which that property was given up to his Excellency's distribution, in consequence of the desire which you felt to avoid multiplying the causes of irritation and dissatisfaction in the mind of the Vizier on points of minor importance.

Political Letter
from Lord Moira,
15 Aug 1815.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* LORD MOIRA *to* the COURT
of DIRECTORS,*Dated 15th August 1815.*

Par. 1. The despatch of the Governor-General in Council, under date the 18th May 1814, in the Political Department, conveyed to your Honourable Court a statement of the transactions and proceedings of the Government with relation to the State of Oude down to that date. Nothing of consequence connected with the affairs of Oude occurred during the short interval of time that elapsed from that date to the period of my departure from the Presidency; and it was my intention to forbear from agitating any of the questions remaining unadjusted between the two States, until my arrival at Lucknow should enable me, in personal communication with the Vizier, to attain those objects which epistolary correspondence and the representative influence of the Resident had failed to accomplish.

2. On the 20th of July I received the melancholy intelligence of the sudden and unexpected death of the Vizier, Saadut Alee Khan.* His Excellency had complained of ill health for some weeks before, but his malady was not deemed to be of a nature at all serious, and he had actually recovered and resumed his accustomed occupations and amusements, when, on the night of the 11th of July, he was suddenly taken ill and expired before medical assistance could be brought. On the instant of his being taken ill, Rumzaun Alee Khan, his Excellency's brother-in-law, who was in attendance on his person, proceeded immediately to the Residency, and communicated to Major Baillie the dangerous situation in which his Excellency was, and thus enabled Major Baillie, who repaired without delay to the palace, to make every necessary precautionary arrangement for securing the tranquil succession of the legal heir before the event of the Vizier's demise was publicly known. By this fortunate circumstance, any such designs as were supposed to be entertained by the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, aided by Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, to possess himself of the musnud under the assumed nomination of his father, were frustrated without commotion, and the accession of the Nawaub Ghazee-

* Consultations, 19th July, vide page 614.

Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder Khan Refaut-ood-Dowlah took place without the smallest interruption of the public tranquillity. The Resident had been furnished with secret instructions, in the contemplation of the late Vizier's decease in the year 1803, when his Excellency was dangerously ill. The tenor of those instructions was to support the succession of the eldest son : and the circumstances under which they were issued having continued unaltered, Major Baillie acted under the authority derived from them. Major Baillie's conduct on this occasion was characterized by the greatest promptitude, vigilance, and prudence, and received my entire approbation.

Political Letter
from Lord Moira,
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3. Every demonstration of public respect and honour for the memory of the late Vizier was manifested by the British Government and the successor was proclaimed with the usual formalities. His Excellency executed and delivered to the Resident an instrument, by which he bound himself to conform to the provisions of the subsisting treaties between the State of Oude and the British Government, and a corresponding instrument, under my seal and signature, was transmitted to his Excellency.

4. The early acts of his Excellency's Government afforded the fairest promise that his administration would be regulated by a due regard to the advice of the British Government, and by a solicitude to improve the happiness and comfort of his people and to promote the general prosperity of his country. I refer your Honourable Court to the reports of the Resident, above alluded to, for the details of the transactions from which this conclusion was drawn. Your Honourable Court will observe, also, in those despatches, that his Excellency had, at the instance of the Resident, acceded to the adjustment of all those questions which had so long been pending with the British Government, and which are particularly adverted to in the despatch of the 20th of May, as one of the first acts of his administration. Major Baillie also effected a reconciliation between the Vizier and his brother, the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, but it will readily occur to your Honourable Court, that however suitable and proper such a public reconciliation was, it could not be permanent nor sincere. Measures were adopted preparatory to the introduction of the reform recommended by the late Government, and to which his Excellency had given his unqualified consent. Your Honourable Court will find from my minutes and correspondence on the subject, that I had never maintained exclusively that individual plan of reform, because it always occurred to me that howsoever advantageous we deemed it in our own territories, local objections might exist to it in Oude. When the Vizier was disposed to adopt it, the trial was expedient, as some new system was necessary, and I knew not what might better suit his circumstances. The Resident also, at an early period after his Excellency's accession, communicated to him the arrangement which had been made with her Highness the Bhow Begum, as detailed in the sixtieth and following paragraphs of the despatch of the Governor-General in Council of the 2d October 1813, and in the sixty-fourth and following paragraphs of the despatch of the 8th February 1814 to the Honourable the Secret Committee. His Excellency the Vizier solicited my advice* as to the course which he should pursue with reference to the assumption of the title of Vizier, and generally towards the Court of Delhi, on the occasion of his accession. As this was a question of some urgency in point of time, I communicated my sentiments on the subject through the Resident without delay, to the following effect.† After pointing out to the Resident that in the letter addressed by me to his Excellency on the occasion of his accession I had styled him Vizier of the Empire, a measure in which I had been influenced by my conviction of the propriety of his Excellency's assumption of that title which had become hereditary in his family, and by the course recommended on the occasion of the accession of the late Vizier Saadut Alec Khan, I observed that it would be proper for the Vizier, as an act of courtesy towards the King, to address an

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* Consultations, 26th July 1814, vide page 615.

† Consultations, 9th August, vide page 620.

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arzee to his Majesty, announcing his accession, but avoiding any appearance of seeking or acknowledging the necessity of receiving his Majesty's confirmation. In the probable event, however, of his Majesty's proffering the grant of the title of Vizier in the usual form, I did not judge it to be expedient that his Excellency should decline it. In reply to Major Baillie's other despatches, reporting the transactions and events referred to in the preceding paragraphs,* I signified to him my approbation of his own conduct, and my satisfaction at the disposition apparently manifested by his Excellency the Vizier, and at the harmony and cordiality which appeared to prevail between his Excellency and the Resident. I concluded by expressing my hope, that his Excellency would continue to perceive his own true interest and the welfare of his people to be best consulted by a liberal, frank, and ingenuous attention to the counsels of the British Government, conveyed through its representative at his Court, delivered with firmness, but with respect and moderation, and with invariable regard to the relative situation of the parties and to the limits of independence on the one side, and control on the other, prescribed by the treaty of November 1801, and by the recorded result of the subsequent negotiation at Lucknow. By a course of conduct conformable to these principles, aided by the zealous, able, and cordial co-operation of the Resident, I observed that his Excellency the Vizier could not fail to obtain the love of his people, the respect of surrounding States, and the approbation of his own conscience.

5. In the preceding observations I marked particularly the spirit in which I wished the Resident to regulate the tender of his advice to the Vizier, from a desire that the new reign should commence in a manner to secure the establishment of our just influence in the State of Oude, on that basis on which alone it appeared to me that it ought to be placed, and from some apprehension that by pressing the Vizier too closely at the commencement, Major Baillie might lose that influence which he appeared to have over his Excellency's mind at the period now under consideration.

6. It was with real concern I afterwards found that my apprehensions were realized; although it is necessary for me to add, that the unhappy fickleness and instability of his Excellency's character, and his openness to every new impression, must be considered as a primary cause of his change of disposition. In a paper which will be brought under your notice in a subsequent part of this despatch, I have entered more at large on this unpleasant subject.

7. Nothing of any moment occurred previously to my meeting with his Excellency the Vizier at Cawnpore, to which station his Excellency had come out from his capital on my approach. During my residence at Cawnpore, and afterwards at Lucknow, my intercourse with his Excellency was constant, and it was my endeavour, by every mode of conciliation and kindness, to obtain his confidence and regard, in which I trust that I succeeded.

8. I shall now solicit the attention of your Honourable Court to the transactions which formed the principal subject of my communications on business with his Excellency during that period.

9. His Excellency the Vizier having, at a conference which I held with his Excellency on the 11th October at Cawnpore, tendered to me, as a proof of his friendship and of the cordial interest which he feels in the prosperity of the affairs of the Honourable Company, an accommodation of one crore of rupees in the way of loan, I deemed it to be my duty, in consideration of the actual state of the public finances and the probable demands arising out of the prosecution of hostilities with the Nepaulese, and the eventual necessity of supporting by military preparations our political views with relation to Saugor and Bhopaul, to accept the offer, with due acknowledgments of the cordial and friendly spirit in which it was made. At a subsequent conference, his Excellency solicited my acceptance of the sum as a free gift to the Honourable

* Political Consultations, 9th August 1814, vide page 620.

† Political Consultations, 11th November 1814, vide page 711.

able Company ; but for reasons which will be obvious to your Honourable Court I declared, with suitable expressions of my sense of the additional proof of his Excellency's friendship, my inability to receive the accommodation except as a loan.

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10. It was arranged that the sum in question should be placed on the footing of a subscription to the Six per Cent. Loan then open ; but his Excellency's consent was subsequently obtained to an arrangement for the permanent assignment of the interest on this loan to the payment of those pensions from his Excellency's treasury which were under the guarantee of the British Government. The correspondence with the Resident at Lucknow, recorded as noted in the margin,* will apprize your Honourable Court of the nature and details of that arrangement, and precludes the necessity of entering into the question in this place, beyond observing that the thus securing the regular payment of the above allowances was a matter of great convenience to Government. Your Honourable Court will observe, that under this arrangement the whole of the pensions coming within the description above stated are transferred to the Honourable Company ; and I feel a confident persuasion, that it will put an end to a fruitless source of debate and vexatious discussion between the Vizier and the Resident, the evil effects of which have been so frequently lamented while their occurrence was almost unavoidable.

11. At a subsequent period, the heavy pressure of the war with Nepaul and the other military preparations which I had deemed it to be my duty to adopt, as fully detailed in my separate despatches on that subject to the Honourable the Secret Committee, induced me to turn my thoughts to the expediency and practicability of obtaining a further pecuniary aid from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, whose interest in the success of our measures is closely interwoven with that of the British Government, whose attachment to the Honourable Company is undoubted, and whose personal regard for myself, I was disposed to think, would render him desirous of contributing to the alleviation of our financial embarrassments, were he once apprized of them. A private communication was accordingly made, under my orders to the Resident at his Excellency's Court, directing him to ascertain, as far as he might be able, the practicability of obtaining a further loan to the extent of one crore of rupees, and to take advantage of any circumstance which might appear to him as affording a prospect of success to open the matter to his Excellency. His Excellency the Vizier had shortly before conveyed to me, through the Resident,† an offer to raise for the service of the ~~the~~ some battalions of Nujeebs to act with the British troops, and to be paid out of his Excellency's treasury, while the war should continue ; and I took an early occasion of expressing to his Excellency, in a letter from myself, the sense which I entertained of this mark of his attachment to the British Government, declining, at the same time, to avail myself of the offer, as not being required in the actual circumstances of the moment. In reply to my letter above referred to I received one from the Vizier,‡ in which, after adverting to my declining the offer to raise Nujeeb battalions, and to the information which he states that he had received from Major Baillie and other quarters of the expense to which the Company was exposed by raising troops, his Excellency concludes by offering a loan of fifty lacs of rupees to the Honourable Company as a proof of his friendship. The amount of this offer was not exactly commensurate to our probable wants ; nor did the manner in which it was made appear to me to be so frank as to render it advisable that I should accept the aid on the part of the Honourable Company. You will observe, indeed, that it was made only under an imperfect knowledge of the actual extent of our difficulties. I determined, therefore, to decline it, and at the same time to authorize Major Baillie § to explain more fully to the Vizier

* Political Consultations, 13th and 29th December 1814, vide pages 714 to 720.

† Secret Consultations, 24th January 1815, vide page 721.

‡ Political Consultations, 25th April 1815, vide page 726.

§ Political Consultations, 25th April 1815, vide page 727.

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Vizier the circumstances of pecuniary embarrassment in which we were placed, and thus afford his Excellency an opportunity of manifesting his friendship by an offer more adequate to the occasion. You will, I assure myself, have sufficient confidence in my sense of what is due to the delicacy and character of your Government, to be satisfied that I have not committed or allowed a trespass on the kindness of the Vizier. The only influence employed was the giving him a distinct view of the embarrassments in which I stood, and thereby exciting his own feelings to come forward with a decisive proof of the attachment he professed for me. According to my expectation, the Vizier, on being made master of these circumstances, tendered in the most friendly terms the loan of a crore of rupees, bearing interest at six per cent.* His Excellency's former letter was withdrawn at his request. I shall, in a subsequent paragraph, have the honour to submit to your Honourable Court a plan which I have in contemplation for redeeming the whole or a portion of this loan.

12. I now return to the subject of my proceedings at Lucknow. Your Honourable Court will observe, that among the stipends now to be paid by the Honourable Company are that of the Vizier's brother, the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, who has retired to Benares, and the stipend to Rumzaun Alec Khan, the brother-in-law of the late Nawaub Saadut Alec Khan. The conduct and suspected designs of Shums-ood-Dowlah immediately after the demise of the late Vizier, although happily checked by the vigilance of the Resident, could not fail to produce a feeling in the mind, both of the Vizier and of his brother, which would render the residence of the latter within the dominions of Oude incompatible with the comfort or tranquillity of either. The Vizier could not, with any confidence or satisfaction, associate with a brother whom he believed to have entertained the design of excluding him from the musnud, and to have appealed to the British Government against the succession as it had actually been established; and the necessary consequence was the estrangement of Shums-ood-Dowlah from his brother's Court, and his destitution of the dignity, honour, consideration, and power which he possessed during his father's life-time, a change in his condition which could not be borne with tranquillity.

13. I soon found this previously-conceived opinion fully justified, and your Honourable Court will perceive, from the documents noted in the margin,† that I received representations both from the Vizier and his brother framed in the spirit of the reciprocal disposition which I have ascribed to them. It was with great satisfaction, therefore, that I found Shums-ood-Dowlah desirous of leaving Oude, and that I received from him, during my residence at Lucknow, an express solicitation to be allowed to retire to Benares, to which the willing consent both of the Vizier and myself was immediately given. The several preparatory arrangements being made, and the stipend of the Nawaub fixed by the mediation of the Resident, under my orders, at one lac and a half of rupees per annum,‡ Shums-ood-Dowlah received his formal audience of leave from the Vizier, in my presence, on the 10th of November, and departed from Lucknow on the 6th of December following.

14. Rumzaun Alec Khan, the other person mentioned in the twelfth paragraph as being comprehended in the arrangement for the payment of the stipends from the Honourable Company's treasury, is the individual who conveyed to the Resident the early intelligence of the decease of the Vizier, and thus enabled Major Baillie to make those timely arrangements which secured the undisturbed succession of the present Vizier.

15. Considering the direct interest which the British Government has in the tranquillity of Oude, and the embarrassment, inconvenience, and expense to which it would have been exposed in the event of a disputed succession, or of disturbance and insurrection which might have been the consequence of a public

* Political Consultations, 25th and 11th April, and 9th May 1815, vide pages 722, 727, and 728.

† Political Consultations, 7th March 1815, vide page 866.

‡ Political Consultations, 7th March 1815, vide page 862 *et seq.*

public knowledge of the death of the late Vizier before the Resident's arrangements were completed, I could not but consider Rumzaun Alee Khan to have rendered an essential service both to the British Government and to the Vizier, and I accordingly deemed it to be my duty to recommend him strongly to the favour and countenance of his Excellency. I regret to say, that this measure had become necessary, in consequence of the too-apparent disposition of the Vizier to forget the obligation which he owed to Rumzaun Alee Khan, and that the latter had already experienced marks of his Excellency's displeasure, for which no part of his conduct, as far as I could learn, afforded just ground. I was happy to find, however, that in consequence of my recommendation of Rumzaun Alee Khan, the Vizier spontaneously proposed that his stipend, amounting to Rupees 58,212 per annum, should be included among those to be paid by the Honourable Company, and added to the loan a further sum of eight lacs and a half of rupees to meet this additional payment.*

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17. Your Honourable Court is aware, that the appointment of an efficient and responsible Minister at the Court of Oude has long been an object of anxiety with the British Government. In the life-time of the late Vizier the existence of such a channel of communication between the Vizier and the Resident would undoubtedly have prevented much of that vexatious and unpleasant altercation which has so frequently excited the regret and concern of this Government. The character of his successor afforded less ground of apprehension that similar impediments to the cordial co-operation of the two Governments in the prosecution of objects of common interest would occur in future; but there are defects in it which strongly pointed out the importance of there being an efficient Minister for the conduct of the details of the Government, possessing equally the confidence of the Vizier and of the British Government. My resolution was taken, therefore, even before the death of the late Vizier, to endeavour to avail myself of my expected personal communication with his Excellency, for the purpose of prevailing on him to appoint an efficient and ostensible Minister. Accordingly, on my arrival at Lucknow this became an early object of my solicitude; and it is with much concern I add, that it was but imperfectly attained.

18. When the subject was first agitated, the Vizier proposed Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan as Minister. Your Honourable Court is well acquainted, from the correspondence of the Resident at Lucknow, with the conduct of Hukeem Mehdee, and his uniform opposition to our just views at that Court; and you will immediately perceive the considerations which induced me, not only to declare my dissent from his nomination to be Minister, but to urge his removal from the Councils of the Vizier. I further recommended that Hukeem Mehdee Alee should be ordered to repair to the district over which he presided, that habits of intercourse between his Excellency and him might subside. His talents and capacity for business, together with his insinuating manners and address, gave him a decided ascendancy over the mind of the Vizier, and there was reason to apprehend that to maintain a consistency with his former conduct, he might exercise that power to thwart, if not destroy, the just and legitimate influence of the British Government in his Excellency's administration. Having deemed it to be my duty, for these reasons, to object to Hukeem Mehdee as a Minister, his Excellency next proposed the appointment of his confidential servant, Agha Meer, to be Paishcar, and Raee-Dya-Krishen to be Dewan, to act in their respective offices in the name of his Excellency's son, on whom he conferred the nominal office of Minister. Not deeming myself warranted in opposing his Excellency's wishes regarding his choice of Ministers, except in a case where it might fall on a person known to be adverse to the interests of the British Government, and to the true and just principles of the connection between that Government and the State of Oude, I had only to acquiesce in his Excellency's selection. Agha Meer, the Paishcar, had been in the Vizier's service from his infancy, and was represented by Major Baillie to possess his entire confidence. He is not a person, however, of the rank

* Political Consultations, 13th December 1814, and 7th March 1815, vide pages 714 to 719, 909, 927, and 931.

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rank, talents, or experience in business, to qualify him for the office to which he has been appointed; but it was apprehended that his advice would have swayed his master, even had he remained in a private capacity, and it might, and probably would, often have been opposed to that of the ostensible Minister. In this point of view, therefore, some advantage was expected to be derived from his appointment to an ostensible and efficient office in the State. The Dewan, Dya-Krishen, has long been at the head of the Vizier's revenue department, and bears a good character for integrity and knowledge of business; but he does not possess that degree of weight and influence which might be wished. I am not aware, however, that a more unexceptionable person could have been selected for the office. I had no reason to doubt the attachment of both the Paishcar and the Dewan to the British Government, or their disposition to promote the interests of the two States: I thence indulged a hope, that the business of the Government would be conducted with as much regularity, order, and propriety, as can be expected under the actual circumstances of that Court. Your Honourable Court will perceive from the sequel, that the result has not been equal to the prospect held forth. I deemed it proper to be present at the investiture of the Minister and the two subordinate officers, which took place at the Vizier's palace on the 10th November.

19. I shall now solicit the attention of your Honourable Court to the paper finally presented to me by the Vizier, and to the tenor of my reply. A translation of that paper, with my answer to each specific article, which was not transmitted till after my departure from Lucknow, is recorded as per margin.* His Excellency's paper referred to the following points:

1st. The preservation of his authority as in the time of his father, and the permanent integrity of his dominions.

2d. The progress of the reform, and a proposition that such of the Ameens sent into the districts as did not fulfil the objects of their deputation should be recalled, and others appointed, when they should receive tehsildary sunnuds. That if this plan did not succeed on trial, another should be resorted to at the end of the current year.

3d. The division of the country into collectorships, and the employment of troops under their orders, so as to prevent recurrence to the aid of the British troops except in cases of necessity.

4th. The administration of justice, by the establishment in the respective Zillahs of judges, from whom an appeal should lie to the Adawlut at Lucknow, the decisions of which Court were to be appealable to a Court composed of two judges selected by the Vizier.

5th. The confirmation of his authority over his family and subjects.

6th. Restoration of maafy lands to certain individuals from whom they had been resumed; and the resumption of such as could not be proved, on investigation, to be held by valid titles.

7th. His Excellency's desire to proceed on hunting excursions, after the manner of his father and uncle, and his hope that the British troops escorting him on such occasions may be under his orders.

20. To these articles I replied in substance as follows, and I furnished the Resident with specific instructions on each. I shall, therefore, with a view to brevity as well as to the connexion of the subject, combine in the following statement the substance of my answer, and of my directions to the Resident.

21. My answer to the first article was to the purport of assuring his Excellency of my earnest desire that he should enjoy, and my determination to secure to him his just authority, begging him to have full reliance on the resolution of myself and colleagues to keep him in that relative situation towards

* Political Consultations, 7th March, vide pages 907 to 915.

towards the British Government to which he is entitled by treaty ; and my instructions to the Resident were framed in the same spirit.

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22. The answer to the second request went to shew that as the basis of the plan in progress was a triennial settlement, its effect could not be decided by the experience of one year ; and his Excellency was solicited either to suffer that plan to proceed, or to propose another without delay for my consideration and concurrence. With respect to the Ameens, I stated my desire to be, that his Excellency should be entirely unrestrained as to their appointment, except that the British Government should have the right of objecting to persons known to be unfit. As the season was passing away, it became extremely desirable that the question of the specific plan of reform to be introduced into his Excellency's Government should be decided with the least practicable delay, and I concluded that his Excellency would immediately either signify his assent to the plan submitted to him by the British Government, or lay before me that which he might desire to substitute for it. In the former case, the Resident was to proceed without delay, in concert with his Excellency and his Ministers, to carry the plan into effect throughout his Excellency's dominions, and was strictly enjoined to observe the most scrupulous and even delicate reserve on his part, on all points connected with his Excellency's selection of the officers to be employed as Ameens, and subsequently as Tehsildars and Zillahdars, maintaining at the same time the right which the British Government could not forego, with any regard for the success or efficiency of the plan, of objecting to persons of known incompetency or proved laxity, but limiting our interference to that point. In the event of the Vizier's proffering a plan of reform of his own, Major Baillie was instructed to receive and submit it for my consideration and instructions.

23. In reply to the third article, after stating my assent to the proposed division of the country into Zillahs, which had indeed been suggested by the British Government, I adverted to what his Excellency had stated respecting the troops to be at the disposal of the Zillahdars, expressing my confidence that they would not exceed the number limited by treaty. I professed, also, the readiness with which the British troops would always be employed in support of his Excellency's legitimate authority, pointing out the marked distinction between their employment on this service and in the support of the oppression and tyranny of rapacious Aumils and farmers, and thence deducing an argument in favour of the reform.

24. With respect to the proposed system for the administration of justice, which forms the subject of the fourth article of his Excellency's paper, I avoided giving any decided answer on that subject, observing that it was a matter that required mature consideration, and I invited him to communicate on the subject with the Resident, that the details of his Excellency's plan might be brought under my consideration, and I directed the Resident to be prepared to enter on the discussion, and to submit his Excellency's plan with his own remarks for my consideration. I remarked, however, to the Resident, that there could not, in my opinion, be a better practical basis for a system of this nature than that proposed by his Excellency himself in the first paper which he delivered to me at Cawnpore, viz. the institution of three separate courts for the trial of causes arising among Mussulmans of either sect and the Hindoos ; and I desired Major Baillie to recall this plan to the Vizier's recollection, if the opportunity should be afforded him of offering any suggestions on the part of the British Government. In my answer to this article, I adverted also to the police of the country, and recommended the subject to his Excellency's attention ; but I was not prepared to form a decided opinion on the plan which might be best suited to the actual condition of his Excellency's dominions. I stated, however, the general bent of my opinions on this subject, and desired Major Baillie, in the event of its coming under discussion, to make them known to the Vizier as the result of such consideration as I had been able to give it. I took this occasion to call the Vizier's attention to the subject of the police of the Honourable Company's districts adjoining the territories of Oude. His Excellency's spontaneous offer, declared at the last

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last conference I held with him, to give orders to the officers of his Government to comply, without a reference to his authority, with all applications from the Magistrates of adjoining districts, and of their police Daroghas, for the seizure of offenders finding refuge in his Excellency's territories, if acted upon with zeal, energy, and good faith, might preclude, I thought, the necessity of any further recommendation to his Excellency for the correction of the existing evil. An authority limited to the Magistrates and the Daroghas or Jemadars of thannas to pursue offenders across the frontier would constitute a material improvement; but I desired Major Baillie, if he should have reason to think that the latter proposition would be unacceptable to his Excellency, not to bring it forward, unless the other plan should be found after experiment to fail. The establishment of either or both of the two plans above adverted to, combined with the arrangement already in force relative to the employment of the British troops stationed within the territory of Oude, would, I conceived, if properly executed, afford every hope of effecting an improvement in the police of the districts adjoining the territories of the Vizier, which without some such expedient could never be attained. It appears from the Resident's report noted in the margin,* that the first plan was carried into effect under his Excellency's orders; and, as far as I am informed, it has fully produced the desired effect. Major Baillie has therefore not brought forward any proposition relative to the further measure contemplated. I beg to refer your Honourable Court to the documents noted in the margin,† for a correspondence on this subject with the Superintendent of Police.

25. On the fifth article I could have no hesitation in giving his Excellency the most satisfactory assurances, with no other reservation than might be necessary for fulfilling the engagements of the British Government. The proposition which the sixth appeared to comprehend received my entire approbation and concurrence; and the seventh required no other answer, than that the point referred to was a matter exclusively for his Excellency's own decision, and that the British troops would always attend him according to established usage. On neither of these three points were any instructions to the Resident required.

26. Having thus disposed of the questions involved in his Excellency's requests, I proceed to advert to other points concerning the common interests of the two States. I have stated the grounds on which I had deemed it necessary to recommend to the Vizier the removal from Lucknow of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan. His Excellency having already assented to the measure without reserve, I had no doubt that it would be carried into effect. As the early removal of the Hukeem was considered by me, under actual circumstances, to be of urgent importance, especially with reference to the appointment of the new Ministers, I desired Major Baillie to move his Excellency to carry it into execution without delay.

27. I have already had the honour to state to your Honourable Court the grounds of my recommendation of Rumzaun Alee Khan to the kindness and consideration of the Vizier, and I took this occasion of repeating what I had already stated to his Excellency in conference. The result of this recommendation has also been already stated.

28. Your Honourable Court will observe, that I added to the answers to the Vizier's requests, and to the communication on the other points above referred to, some observations regarding the just and fair construction, in my estimation, of the terms of the Treaty, as referring to the nature and extent of the Vizier's authority within the reserved dominions, and an exposition of the principles on which I proposed to regulate my conduct towards the State of Oude. There are other observations, also, suggested by the tenor of the first paper delivered by the Vizier to the Governor-General at Cawnpore, which although afterwards

* Political Consultations, 7th March, vide page 931.

† Judicial Consultations, 14th February, 31st January 1815, 6th December 1814, and 29th December.

~~afterwards withdrawn~~, furnished the opportunity of stating to his Excellency the sentiments entertained by me on several points on which a knowledge of them must be satisfactory. I took this occasion, also, of communicating to the Resident some observations and instructions relative to the course of conduct which I considered it to be proper for him invariably to pursue, as being equally prescribed by the fair construction of the Treaty of 1801, and by every principle of sound policy with relation to the court of Lucknow. As the principles laid down on this occasion constitute those by which it has been my aim to regulate my policy with reference to the State of Oude, I shall take the liberty of bringing them directly under your notice in this place.

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29. In construing the terms of the recorded engagements between the Honourable Company and the Nawaub of Oude, it was required by every principle of justice, that the most liberal and comprehensive meaning should be given to such articles as were in favour of that party, whose weakness presents no security for him but in that good faith on which he has relied. If abstract equity offer this conclusion, I am no less persuaded that sound policy will equally uphold it. It would be much gained, were one only to avoid the chance of that extremity which should force you to withdraw the Nawaub's Government and establish your own in these territories; because such a necessity, though it might morally exist, could never be made out to the world, and the seizure of the Nawaub's possessions would be universally stigmatized as a premeditated usurpation, arising from a base cupidity. When an exigency, such as that alluded to, is supposed possible, the circumstance which could create it demands close reflection. One case alone can be imagined capable of driving us to a conduct so repugnant to our wishes; namely, the discovery that the Nawaub had secretly leagued himself with the enemies of the British Government, and was practising with them for our overthrow. This case, however, could not occur, but through absolute desperation on the part of the Nawaub; and such desperation could only be produced by his undergoing a course of indignities, or oppressions which he would regard in that light, so as that he should think the most unpromising conspiracy preferable to submission under such insults. Our interests might be very seriously affected by that temper in the Nawaub. It is true he has no troops, but he has much mischief in his power. He has vast command of money; supplying by stealth funds to those who would, with such a resource, be able to levy any number of men, he might draw upon the Company the expense and danger of a war, leaving it infinitely difficult for us to trace his having furnished those supplies. The rendering the situation of the Nawaub tranquil and satisfactory, is, therefore, an object no less incumbent on our policy than dictated by our generous feelings. This consideration, then, was to be held perpetually in view by the Resident, and eminently to guide his procedures.

30. The reservation by treaty of a right to interfere with advice or remonstrance upon any management of affairs within the Nawaub's reserved dominions, which may injuriously affect the British interests, clearly implies that in all other respects the administration of the Nawaub is to be free. But indeed it is evident, from the whole tenor of the treaty, that an uninterrupted exercise of his own authority within the reserved dominions was assured to him, in order to qualify the very strong step which we took in appropriating to ourselves (as an exchange for the subsidy) so large a portion of his territories. The Nawaub is consequently to be treated in all public observances, as an independent Prince. Essentially he must be subservient to the British Government; but in proportion as that point is secure, personal attentions to him involve no inconvenience, and on the other hand they cannot but be productive of advantage. In all intercourse, the Resident should consider himself as the ambassador from the British Government to an acknowledged Sovereign; a respectful urbanity, and a strict fulfilment of established ceremonials, should thence be preserved by the Resident towards his Excellency. The latter must be conscious of the power of the Resident to exercise influence over him; so that any parade of that influence in the eyes of others must be no less useless than revolting: it must, therefore, be the care of the Resident cautiously to abstain from any such ostentation of authority. He is, in a most special manner, to forbear from countenancing or encouraging any

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any servant of the Nawaub in contumacious opposition to his master; and he should lay it down as a positive rule, not to recommend from his own household any person for reception into the immediate suite of the Nawaub. In regard to interviews, regular form should be invariably maintained. When the Resident desires to communicate with the Nawaub, he should always send to ask the audience and not repair at once to the palace, so as to give the appearance of the Nawaub's being constrained to grant it howsoever inconvenient. Within the palace, as well as in public, whatever may be the intimacy which prior habits or services have established between the Nawaub and the Resident, an air of deferential politeness should be maintained by the Resident. This can never deceive the Nawaub into resistance against any just propositions of the Resident, but will, on the contrary, make him the more flexible, lest he should forfeit a shew of respect calculated to exalt him in the eyes of his subjects. Finally, after what had recently passed, the Resident could not be too cautious not to let any of the gentlemen attached to the Residency slide into regular functions in any of the Nawaub's establishments. Such a position must always militate with their primary duties, and cannot fail to lead to irregularities. This observation does not extend to the physician. The claims of humanity would forbid any shackle to the Nawaub's addressing himself for medical advice to the surgeon of the Residency, and there can be no objection to any arrangement which shall make that recurrence more prompt and satisfactory.

31. In stating these principles to the Resident, I expressed my hope that by a due regard to them, both Major Baillie and succeeding Residents would obtain from the Nawaub a willing compliance on every occasion where it might be necessary to interpose advice; an acquiescence of very different import to the interests of the British Government from that enforced, reluctant, and tardy submission, which leaves the minds of the parties soured, and thence leads inevitably to mischievous estrangement.

32. Major Baillie's report of the Vizier's reception of the communications referred to in the preceding paragraphs is contained in his despatch noted in the margin;* to which, and to my instructions in reply, I have the honour to refer you for information on that subject, and for a statement of the manner in which I authorized Major Baillie to remove the anxiety which his Excellency appears to have felt on one or two of the points in question.

33. The only subject comprehended in the preceding discussion, to which it is necessary for me to solicit the further attention of your Honourable Court, is the question of reform. Your Honourable Court will observe that the Vizier signified to Major Baillie his perfect acquiescence in the plan recommended by the Resident, consonantly to the original instructions of the British Government, and engaged to carry it into effect, and that the Ministers received instructions to proceed in the execution of that work in concert with the Resident. The despatches noted in the margin† refer to the progress which had been made in the reform antecedently to the period just now referred to, in consequence of the orders issued by his Excellency soon after his accession, as reported in the fourth paragraph. It had languished for a time, in consequence of the cabals and intrigues to which reference is made in the sixteenth paragraph; but under the influence of the resolution now framed by his Excellency, and the orders to the Ministers that were zealously obeyed, the measure proceeded with apparent success.‡ A considerable impediment to its success arose from the necessity of withdrawing from Oude a large portion of the troops usually stationed in that territory, in consequence of the exigencies of the war with Nepaul; but notwithstanding this unfavourable circumstance, there was every hope that it would ultimately succeed (at least to an extent sufficient to demonstrate the expediency of persevering), if an unfortunate change in his Excellency's disposition and counsel had not taken place, which after much wavering and inconsistency of conduct

* Political Consultations, 7th March, vide pages 927 and 931.

† Political Consultations, 2d August, 16th August, 16th September, 27th September, 11th October, 18th November, and 6th December 1814, vide pages 621, 627, 630, 636, and 644.

‡ Political Consultations, 6th December, 13th December, 20th December 1814; 17th January, 14th February, 28th February, 28th March, 25th April, and 28th June 1815; vide pages 639, 645, 652, 651, 665, 666, and 675.

conduct on the part of the Vizier has terminated in the suspension of the functions of the Ministers, and entirely put an end, for the present, to the progress of the reform.

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from Lord Moira,
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34. Some indications of his Excellency's displeasure at his Ministers had taken place at different times, but they were not of a nature to excite a belief that he entertained any design of depriving them of their authority or official situations,* and the instances in question, as well as the return of his Excellency's good-humour, were sufficiently accounted for by the known fickleness and weakness of his Excellency's character. The enemies of Moatummud-ood-Dowlah (Agha Meer) were always at hand, to take advantage of any opportunity of exciting his Excellency's displeasure at that person, but until the occasion offered by the absence of the Minister in attendance on his Excellency's son, who was deputed by the Vizier to visit me at this station, they were not able to accomplish their purpose. It is not necessary for me to enter into any detail of the intrigues and artifices by which this object has been ultimately effected; for so I consider it to be, since although the Minister and the Dewan both retain their situations nominally, they have ceased to exercise their official functions. Major Baillie's despatches noted in the margin contain all the information I possess on that subject, and the tenor of the latest of them, and of his Excellency's letter to me, indicates a disposition on the part of the Vizier to dismiss them from office, and to combine with this measure the recall of Hukeem Mehdee. Major Baillie has also reported the entire suspension of the progress of the reform since the departure of the Minister and the Dewan from Lucknow on the duty above referred to. Their loss of the Vizier's favour is ascribed by Major Baillie to the insidious misrepresentations made by their enemies of the exertions of the Minister in prosecuting the reform, and in the part they took in the negotiation of the second loan of a crore of rupees, and other acts manifesting their desire to promote the objects of the British Government as connected with the affairs of Oude. All these acts are represented to the Vizier as so many proofs of the entire devotion of the Ministers to the British Government and the Resident, and his Excellency is made to believe that their continuance in office is incompatible with the preservation of his legitimate authority and guaranteed independence. The weakness of the Vizier's character was not proof against these artful insinuations. On these points, embracing so many important consequences, I shall probably have shortly to address your Honourable Court.

35. I shall now lay before your Honourable Court a summary of the proceedings connected with the deputation of his Excellency's son to Futtygurh, and such other points referred to in the recent correspondence with the Resident at Lucknow, as it appears proper to include in this despatch.

36. In the month of March, soon after my arrival at Futtygurh, the Vizier stated his intention† to depute his minister, Moatummud-ood-Dowlah, to congratulate me on the completion of my tour, and to charge him at the same time, with a paper of requests, to which he was instructed to obtain my answers. His Excellency ultimately resolved on sending his only son, the Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder, on this mission, attended by the Minister and the Dewan, entrusting to the charge of the Minister the business to which the paper of requests referred. The Nawaub, attended by the Ministers, arrived at Futtygurh on the 15th of June, and commenced his return to Lucknow on the 24th of that month, during which time I endeavoured, by every demonstration of attention and kindness to the Nawaub, and of courtesy to the Minister, to manifest my friendship and regard for his Excellency the Vizier. During their residence here I had several interviews on business with the Minister and Dewan, at which his Excellency's paper of requests was produced, and the tenor of those requests and of my answers discussed.‡ The latter were finally committed to writing, and a paper under my seal and signature containing them was delivered to the Minister.

37. His

* Political Consultations, 28th June 1815, vide page 681.

† Political Consultations, 18th April and 30th May, vide page 731.

‡ Political Consultations, 18th July 1815, vide pages 735 to 740.

37. His Excellency's requests and my answers were in substance as follows.

1st. Relative to the contumacy of Nuseer-ood-Dowlah and the Vizier's other brothers and relations.

In my answer to his Excellency's former papers, I had declared that I considered his Excellency to be possessed of uncontrolled authority over his brothers and relations.

I was not aware of any means, on my part, of strengthening his Excellency's authority in that respect, without I gave an assurance of so unqualified a nature as might be interpreted into a sanction for severity, which the British Government would never think it just to countenance: I therefore so fashioned my answer, as to convey to his Excellency the fullest assurances of my desire to uphold his authority over his brother and the other members of his family, but to reserve the right of interposing to correct or mitigate any proceeding founded on false or exaggerated statements. "The fitness of such interposition must be determined by the circumstances of each particular case, and the Resident's knowledge of my sentiments and principles of action with reference to the Government of Oude will enable him to regulate his conduct.

2d Relative to the alleged conduct of Shums-ood-Dowlah.

I saw no reason to suppose that these charges against Shums-ood-Dowlah originated in any other cause than the Vizier's natural jealousy and suspicion of his brother. There could be no hesitation, however, on my part, in conveying the most positive assurances to his Excellency, that such proceedings on the part of Shums-ood-Dowlah as were ascribed to him, would not only receive no countenance from the British Government but be severely reprobated, and that assurance was accordingly given.

3d Expressing his Excellency's desire to be put in possession of the wealth of the Bhow Begum at her demise.

The tenor of the engagement with the Bhow Begum imposes on the British Government the obligation of securing to her relations and dependants the bequests allotted to them by her Highness's testamentary disposition of her property, which can only be effectually done by vesting in the hands of the Honourable Company a fund adequate to the purpose. It is certain, too, that the Begum considered the arrangement to be entirely independent of the Vizier's Government, and the British Government is bound to act on that construction. Admitting the Vizier's present indisposition to fulfil the objects of her Highness's will, it is obvious that occasions might (and judging from past experience, there is no doubt that they would) frequently arise for discussion and altercation relative to the stipends, which would disturb the harmony between the two Governments, and the objects happily secured by the terms of the first loan would thus be defeated, by the introduction of new causes of altercation and dispute. A compliance with the Vizier's wishes in this instance was therefore inadmissible, and I declined it, on the grounds of our faith being pledged to the Begum to carry the arrangement into effect in the manner expressed in the engagement, adding the most satisfactory assurances relative to her Highness's surplus wealth and the reversion of the jagiers.

4th. Requesting that Khyreegurh and a portion of the territories that may be conquered from the Goorkahs may be granted to his Excellency, either as a compensation for the loan or otherwise.

In reply to this, I stated, that I was earnestly desirous of meeting his Excellency's wishes in this respect, and that when the country should be conquered from the Goorkahs, and the insurrection then prevailing be suppressed and peace with the Goorkahs have taken place, I should be prepared to enter on the consideration of the subject. It appears to me to be an object of considerable importance, to render the transfer of Khyreegurh, and the rest of the Goorkah terrace lying contiguous to the Vizier's territories, a means of reducing a considerable portion, or perhaps the whole of the last loan of a crore of rupees, by adopting an arrangement of the nature spontaneously suggested by the Vizier; but in the imperfect state of my information on the subject of the resources of that country, which indeed could not yet be considered at our disposal, I did not judge it advisable to make any more specific assurance to his Excellency than that above stated.

38. I availed myself of the occasion of my last interview with the Minister, to express the sense cherished by the British Government of the extraordinary liberality of his Excellency in the pecuniary aid which he afforded to the Government during the late season of actual and apprehended exigency, and to satisfy his Excellency's mind by an assurance that the British Government did not

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entertain the intention of again trespassing on the liberality of his Excellency's disposition.

Political Letter
from Lord Moira.
15 Aug. 1815.

39. In the letter which I addressed to the Vizier, giving cover to the paper containing my answers to his requests, I adverted to the progress of the measure of reform in the revenue and administration of Oude, and other arrangements for the improvement of the country, adopted at the instance of the British Government, in the hope that this would testify the importance attached by the British Government to the success of those arrangements, and afford the Resident, if necessary, an opportunity of drawing his Excellency's attention to the subject. The Minister was apprized of the contents of the Governor-General's letter to the Vizier.

40. The necessity of such a suggestion was becoming very apparent, and his Excellency about this time addressed a letter to me,* proposing that the allowance of ten per cent. on the revenues, which had been allowed to the Tehsildars under the new system, should be abolished, and fixed salaries assigned to them instead, with a view to the reduction of expense. There was every reason to believe that this proposition had been suggested to him with a view to impede the progress of the reform, an effect which it certainly appeared to me calculated to produce, by discouraging the Tehsildars and weakening their zeal and exertions: I therefore replied to his Excellency,† dissuading him from the measure, at least until the close of the year, stating at some length my reasons for this advice. I beg to refer your Honourable Court to the recorded correspondence for information on this subject.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER to BENGAL,

Dated the 22d March 1816.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
22 Mar. 1816.

Letter from, dated 18th May 1814. Respecting the negotiation with the Nawaub Vizier for effecting a reform in the administration of his Excellency's affairs.

Par. 79. Our despatch in the Political Department of the 18th February 1814, paragraphs 131 to 135, contained a summary view of your proceedings at that time before us, on the subject of your negotiation with the Nawaub Vizier for effecting a general reform in the internal administration of his Excellency's affairs, and we expressed our regret that the negotiation, so ably and zealously conducted on the part of the Resident at the Vizier's Court, under your instructions, for the attainment of that object, had failed of success. In the one hundred and seventieth paragraph of our subsequent despatch of the 30th September 1814, we signified our approbation of the general tenor and purport of the Governor-General's (Lord Minto's) letter of remonstrance to the Nawaub Vizier of the 8th May 1812, urging his Excellency to adopt a line of conduct more creditable to himself and more consistent with the obligations of existing treaties.

80. The death of the Nawaub Vizier since the date of your letter before us, has rendered any minute observations on the narrative therein contained respecting the continuance of the negotiation unnecessary. We are not prepared to say that his Excellency in the course of the negotiation was not on some occasions urged with too much vehemence to adopt the plan of reform which had been proposed to him. It appearing, however, that his Excellency continued to entertain a decided repugnance to the particular plan of reform which had been submitted to him by Lord Minto (though he had at one time given his consent thereto), and to any modification of it consonant to the sentiments and wishes at that time entertained by your Government on that important point, and as no hopes could be entertained of success from any further endeavours short of compulsion to carry that measure into execution in the precise form in which it had hitherto been urged, we concur entirely in the view taken of the subject in the instructions which were issued to the Resident on the 25th March 1814,‡ pointing out the necessity of desisting from the further prosecution of the original

* Political Consultations, 18th July 1815, vide page 686.

† Political Consultations, 18th July 1815, vide page 687.

‡ Vide page 608.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
22 Mar. 1816
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original arrangement, but at the same time calling upon his Excellency to state his own views upon the subject, in such a manner as to lay a foundation for the discussion and eventual adoption of a plan, which though not embracing the full extent of the system which had been recommended to him, might yet produce considerable practical improvement in the conduct of his administration and in the condition of his subjects; but we are greatly concerned that the subsequent illness and death of the Vizier put a period to further proceedings on this highly important subject.

81. We feel it proper to take this opportunity of expressing our desire, that in the event of the discussion being resumed with the present Vizier, you will not, however favourably disposed his Excellency may be to attend to your suggestions, proceed to introduce into his dominions any system of administration which shall not be founded upon a due and considerate attention to the established institutions and general usages of the country. Without enlarging upon the subject in this place, we would refer you for our sentiments in regard to a premature introduction of our system, especially in States where it must be administered by natives, to our Political Letter to the Government of Fort St. George, dated 10th August 1814.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *to* BENGAL,

Dated the 17th September 1817.

Letter from Lord Moira to the Court, dated 15th August 1815. (1 to 7.) Death of the Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan, and succession of the Nawaub Ghazee-ood-Deen-Hyder Khan Refaut-ood-Dowlah to the musnud of Oude.

Par. 3. In the eightieth paragraph of our letter in the Political Department, dated the 22d March 1816, we expressed our concern at the melancholy event of the death of the Vizier, Saadut Alee Khan, and we have now to signify our approbation of the prompt and judicious measures pursued by Colonel Baillie, the Resident at Lucknow, under your instructions for securing the tranquil succession of the legal heir to the musnud of Oude, as reported in his letter of the 12th July 1814. By this course of proceeding, the supposed designs of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah for possessing himself of the throne, to the exclusion of his brother, the Nawaub Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder Khan Refaut-ood-Dowlah, were frustrated, and we have the pleasure to observe, that the accession of the Vizier was effectually established without the smallest interruption to the public tranquillity.

4. The arrangements adopted by you in support of the new administration, appear to have for their object the strengthening and consolidating those ties of friendship and alliance which have so long existed between the State of Oude and the British Government, and were calculated to impress upon the former our solicitude to maintain unimpaired the amicable relations so happily established between the two States.

(8 to 11, and 37, 38.) Stating that the Vizier had accommodated Government with the loan of two crores of rupees.

5. We have derived a great satisfaction from the communication made to us in these paragraphs, of the voluntary offer on the part of the Vizier, of a loan of a crore of rupees, and we are sensible of the zeal for the public interests which induced the Governor-General to prevail on the Vizier subsequently to extend that amount to two crores of rupees. We consider the important aid rendered to our finances by his Excellency as manifesting on his part the cordial interest he feels in the prosperity of our affairs.

6. We approve of the arrangement entered into with his Excellency for the permanent assignment of the interest on the first loan, to which the further sum of eight lacs fifty thousand rupees has been added, in payment of the pensions granted by the Vizier under the guarantee of the British Government, which we observe, by the statement* accompanying the letter from the Resident at Lucknow of the 29th November 1814, amount to six lacs fifty-one thousand rupees per annum. In giving our sanction to this measure, we trust that the hope entertained by our Governor-General of putting an end to a fruitless source of debate and

* Vide page 719.

and vexatious discussion between the Vizier and the Resident, will not be disappointed.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
17 Sept. 1817.

7. We expect to be informed of the result of the arrangements in progress, alluded to in the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth paragraphs of the letter now under reply, for redeeming the last loan of a crore of rupees, by the transfer to the Vizier of the district of Khyreegurh and the rest of the Goorkah territory contiguous to his Excellency's territories, in compliance with the spontaneous proposition made to you by his Excellency to that effect.

8. Such further observations as we may deem necessary to offer on the subject of our pecuniary transactions with the State of Oude will be communicated from the Financial Department.

o 15). Provision allotted by
ier to his brother, Shums-
wlah, and to the late Vi-
ther-in-law, Rumzaun Aleé

9. The conduct and suspected designs of Shums-ood-Dowlah immediately after the decease of the late Vizier, and the estrangement which existed between him and his brother, rendered it necessary to the tranquillity of the Government of Oude that a firm but conciliatory course of policy should be observed towards Shums-ood-Dowlah. We therefore approve of the arrangement adopted by the Governor General in concurrence with the Vizier, permitting Shums-ood-Dowlah to retire to Benares on a stipend of a lac and a half of rupees per annum, which was assigned to him by his Excellency, and of which you have guaranteed the payment from your treasury.

10. We notice with satisfaction the success which attended the efforts of our Governor-General, as reported in his Lordship's letter* to the Vice-President in Council of the 29th December 1814, to ameliorate the situation of Rumzaun Aleé Khan, whose services, in having conveyed to the Resident at Lucknow the early intelligence of the decease of the Vizier, enabled Colonel Baillie to make timely arrangements for securing the undisturbed succession of the present Vizier, and we approve of the stipend of 58,212 rupees per annum granted by the Vizier to Rumzaun Aleé Khan at the recommendation of Marquess Hastings being included among those to be paid by your Government.

40.) Négotiation for the re-
the Administration of Oude
l with the present Vizier.

12. Our sentiments on this important subject have been so fully communicated to you in our despatches from this department of the 18th February and 30th September 1814, and 22d March 1816, that it is unnecessary for us in this place to enter much at length into the subject of these paragraphs; more particularly, as in the eighty-first paragraph of our last-mentioned letter we expressed our desire, that in the event of the discussion being resumed with the present Vizier, you would not, however favourably disposed his Excellency might be to attend to your suggestions, proceed to introduce into his dominions any system of administration which should not be founded upon a due and considerate attention to the established institutions and general usages of the country. We concur in the sentiments expressed by the Governor-General in the sixteenth and twentieth paragraphs of his letter to Colonel Baillie of the 12th November 1814,† and we agree with his Lordship, that "in construing the terms of the recorded engagements between the Honorable Company and the Nawaub of Oude, it is required by every principle of justice, that the most liberal and comprehensive meaning should be given to such articles of the treaty of 1801 as are in favour of that party, whose weakness presents no security for him but in that good faith on which he has relied."

• Vide page 862.

† Vide page s 918 and 919.



DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO

THE REMOVAL OF LIEUT.-COLONEL BAILLIE

FROM THE OFFICE OF

RESIDENT AT LUCKNOW.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS, AT THE REQUEST OF
THE MARQUESS OF HASTINGS AND LIEUTENANT-COLONEL BAILLIE.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER *from* LORD MOIRA *to the* COURT OF DIRECTORS,

Political Letter
from Lord Moira,
15 Aug. 1815.

Dated the 15th August 1815.

Par. 16. I now beg leave to draw the attention of your Honourable Court to the enclosed documents,* containing the details of all the remaining transactions relative to the affairs of Lucknow, which occupied my attention during my residence at that capital. The documents above referred to, with the explanatory observations which I have added, in order to shew my view of the extraordinary transactions to which they relate, appear to me to place the whole case in such a point of view, as to enable your Honourable Court to form a judgment on the question, without the necessity of any additional remark on my part: I shall, therefore, instead of attempting to state the substance of those papers in such a summary form as would be consistent with the limits of a despatch, solicit the attention of your Honourable Court to the documents themselves.

POLITICAL LETTER *from* BENGAL,

Dated the 30th March 1816.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
30 Mar. 1816.

Honourable Sirs:

On the proceedings noted in the margin† is recorded a despatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, late Resident at Lucknow, purporting to be in explanation of the circumstances and transactions which form the subject of enclosures of the Governor-

* Political Consultations, 7th March 1815, vide next page.

† Political Consultations, 3d November 1815, vide page 936.

Political Letter
from Bengal,
30 Mar. 1816.

Governor-General's despatch to the Vice-President in Council, under date the 29th December 1814, relative to the affairs of Oude, and recorded on the proceedings noted in the margin.* The style and tenor of that despatch appearing to the Governor-General to render it indispensably necessary that Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie should be removed from the office of Resident at Lucknow, for the reasons stated by his Lordship in a minute recorded on the same proceedings, that measure was carried into effect with the concurrence of the Board, expressed in minutes recorded by the Members of the Council on the same proceedings, and Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie has since proceeded to England on furlough.

2. The object of this despatch, is to lay before your Honourable Court the enclosed copy of a minute of the Governor-General, containing a detailed review of the whole transaction, and which it is the request of his Lordship may be taken into consideration by your Honourable Court at the time when the proceedings containing Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie's despatch shall come before you.

3. A separate minute has been recorded by Mr. Edmonstone, referring to one part of the Governor-General's minute, in which Mr. Edmonstone considered the measures of the former Government to be animadverted on. A copy of that minute, and of a further minute by the Governor-General, and of one also recorded by Mr. Seton, are transmitted as numbers in the packet.

4. We shall probably have occasion, at a future period, to address your Honourable Court on the general subject of the principles by which our intercourse with the Court of Lucknow ought to be governed, to which the concluding paragraphs of the Governor-General's minute refer.

We have, &c.

Fort-William,
30th March 1816.

(Signed)

MOIRA,
N. B. EDMONSTONE,
ARCHIBALD SETON,
G. DOWDISWELL.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 7th March 1815.

Ordered, That the following letter from his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, together with its several enclosures, be here recorded.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency Sir G. Nugent, K. B., Vice-President in Council.

Honourable Sir :

1. Being desirous of bringing under your notice, and of placing on the records of Government, a complete statement of my proceedings during my late visit to Lucknow, I now proceed to fulfil that purpose, which the extraordinary pressure of public business has hitherto compelled me to postpone.

2. In my letter of the 29th of October last, I had the honour to apprise you of my having accepted, on the part of the Honourable Company, of a loan of a crore of rupees from his Excellency the Vizier, and I intimated my intention of making an arrangement for the payment of the interest of that sum, from which I hoped that mutual benefit would be derived by the British Government and by that of Oude.

3. The correspondence of the Resident at Lucknow will have apprized you of the nature of that arrangement, and together with the copy of my final instructions on the subject to Major Baillie, transmitted to the Presidency on the

* Political Consultations, 7th March 1815.

the 12th instant, will preclude the necessity of entering more particularly into the question in this place.

Bengal Political
Consultations
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter from
Governor-General.

4. I feel a confident persuasion that the transfer to the Honourable Company of the obligation of paying directly from its own treasury those stipends for which it is the guarantee, will destroy a fruitful source of debate and vexatious discussion between the Vizier and the Resident, the evil effects of which have been so frequently a matter of regret, while their occurrence was almost unavoidable.

5. Your Excellency in Council will observe, that among the stipends now to be paid by the Honourable Company are that of the Vizier's brother, the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, who has retired to Benares, and the stipend to Rumzaun Alee Khan, the brother-in-law of the late Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan.

6. The conduct and designs of Shums-ood-Dowlah, immediately after the demise of the late Vizier, although happily frustrated by the vigilance of the Resident, could not fail to produce a feeling in the mind both of the Vizier and of his brother, which would render the residence of the latter within the dominions of Oude incompatible with the comfort or tranquillity of either. The Vizier could not, with any confidence or satisfaction, associate with a brother, whom he knew to have entertained the design of excluding him from the musnad, and to have appealed to the British Government against the succession as it had actually been established; and the necessary consequence was, the estrangement of Shums-ood-Dowlah from his brother's Court, and his destitution of the dignity, honour, consideration, and power, which he possessed during his father's life-time: a change in his condition which could not be borne with tranquillity.

7. I soon found this previously conceived opinion fully justified; and your Excellency in Council will perceive in the documents marked Number I, of that series to which I shall more particularly refer in a subsequent paragraph, that an indirect expression of the Vizier's wish for the removal of his brother from Oude was conveyed to me by his Excellency. Although the paper which contained it was afterwards withdrawn, the real inclination of the Vizier was not the less certain, and the removal of his brother has undoubtedly been to him a source of the highest satisfaction.

8. With respect to Shums-ood Dowlah, your Excellency in Council will be pleased to observe, that he made also a direct application to me* to be permitted to retire within the Honourable Company's provinces; a circumstance which removed all difficulty in carrying the arrangement into effect.

9. It was to be supposed, that the expectation of Shums-ood-Dowlah, with regard to the stipend to be received by him at Benares, would exceed the disposition of the Vizier: but the mediation of the Resident, under my orders, effected an adjustment, which appears to me to combine a due consideration for the rank and station of Shums-ood-Dowlah, with that regard to the wishes of the Vizier which he was entitled to expect at my hands.]

10. The document marked F. of those annexed to this letter is the translation of a paper delivered to me by Shums-ood-Dowlah on the occasion of a private interview which I had with him at Cawnpore on the 11th of October. On this occasion I stated to Shums-ood-Dowlah that his recent conduct, as reported to me by the Resident, had superseded, in my mind, those sentiments which his proceedings immediately after the demise of the late Vizier could not fail to excite with relation to him, and that as long as he pursued the conduct which had received my approbation, and manifested towards his brother and Sovereign that deference, respect, and obedience, which were due to him, he might be assured of the protection and consideration of the British Government.

* See Enclosure A.

† See Enclosure B.

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ment. At this time I was not apprized of the contents of his paper, which on subsequent inspection did not appear to me to require any answer.

11. The Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah received his formal audience of leave from the Vizier, in my presence, on the 10th November, and departed from Lucknow on the 6th December.

12. It is proper that I should state the grounds on which I deemed it expedient and just to interfere with the Vizier in behalf of Rumzaun Alec Khan.

13. This person, as is known to your Excellency in Council, held an office which placed him in immediate attendance on the late Vizier, and he was the only person with his Excellency when he was seized with the illness which suddenly terminated his life. The Resident has reported, in his despatch of the 12th of July, that he received the intelligence of the Vizier's dangerous situation from Rumzaun Alec Khan, who with praiseworthy fidelity and good sense proceeded directly to the Resident, carefully concealing the circumstance from every body else, and thus enabled Major Baillie to take those timely and effectual measures which secured the tranquil accession of the legitimate heir and frustrated the designs of his enemies.

14. Considering the direct interest which the British Government has in the tranquillity of Oude, and the embarrassment, inconvenience, and expense to which it would have been exposed in the event of a disputed succession, or of disturbance and insurrection, which would have been the consequence of a public knowledge of the death of the late Vizier before the Resident's arrangements were completed, I cannot but consider Rumzaun Alec Khan to have rendered an essential service, both to the British Government and to the Vizier, and I accordingly deemed it to be my duty to recommend him strongly to the favour and countenance of his Excellency. I regret to say, that this measure had become necessary, in consequence of the too apparent disposition of the Vizier to forget the obligation which he owed to Rumzaun Alec Khan, and that the latter had already experienced marks of his Excellency's displeasure, for which no part of his conduct, as far as I could learn, afforded just ground.

15. I was happy to find that, in consequence of my recommendation of Rumzaun Alec Khan, the Vizier spontaneously proposed that his stipend, amounting to Rupees 58,212 per annum, should be included among those to be paid by the Honourable Company, and added to the loan a further sum of eight lacs and a-half of rupees to meet this additional payment.

16. Your Excellency in Council will observe, that my recommendation to his Excellency in favour of Rumzaun Alec Khan was, that he might continue to enjoy the stipend of which he was actually in the receipt, and that he might be indemnified for the loss of the emoluments of the offices which he held about the person of the late Vizier, in the event of the present Vizier dispensing with his services; and according to my recollection, and that of the gentlemen who were present at the conference at which the object was agitated, his Excellency signified his acquiescence. It now appears from Major Baillie's despatch of the 6th instant, that his Excellency did not consider his assent to be given to more than a confirmation of his pension. As the Vizier has stated his intention to address me directly on this subject, I have suspended any communication either to his Excellency or to Major Baillie. My opinion is, that the advantage already secured to Rumzaun Alec Khan is liberal and ample; and if I find his Excellency extremely averse to any extension of his liberality, I do not propose to urge it. I shall think it proper, however, to repeat my orders to the Resident to represent to the Vizier the merits and services of Rumzaun Alec Khan, and the injury which his Excellency's reputation must sustain from any harsh and unmerited treatment of a person to whom he is so greatly indebted.

17. I have deemed it requisite to advert to this case at more length than it may seem to demand, as it constitutes the only one in which I found it necessary to interfere

interfere in behalf of any individual at the Vizier's Court, and the only one of that description which can, I conceive, give rise to any discussion of an unpleasant nature between his Excellency and the Resident. I trust, however, that this is improbable, as the direct payment of the stipend obviates the principal cause of difference.

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Governor-General.

18. I now beg leave to draw the attention of your Excellency in Council to the enclosed documents, Nos. 1 to 13, which contain the details of all the remaining transactions relative to the affairs of Lucknow, which occupied my attention during my residence at that capital.

19. To those documents I have added a paper of observations drawn up for the purpose of conveying more clearly my view of the extraordinary transactions to which they relate, and I request that it may be recorded with the other papers.

20. The documents themselves, with my explanatory observations, appear to me to place the whole case in such a point of view, as to enable your Excellency in Council, and ultimately the authorities at home, to form a judgment on the question, without the necessity of any additional remark on my part.

21. There are only two other points on which I deem it necessary to state some observations, namely, the appointment by the Vizier of a Minister, and a Paishcar and Dewan, and the removal of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan from Lucknow.

22. Your Excellency is too well acquainted with the conduct of Hukeem Mehdee, and his uniform opposition to our just views at the Court of Lucknow, as recorded in the official correspondence with the Resident, to render it necessary for me to state the considerations which induced me to urge his removal from the presence and councils of the Vizier. His talents and capacity for business, together with his insinuating manners and address, gave him a decided ascendancy over the mind of the Vizier, which he would undoubtedly have exercised, as he had done before, to subvert and destroy the just and legitimate influence of the British Government in his Excellency's administration.

23. The appointment of an efficient and responsible Minister at the Court of Oude has long been an object of anxiety with the British Government. In the life-time of the late Vizier the existence of such a channel of communication between the Vizier and the Resident would undoubtedly have prevented much of that vexatious and unpleasant altercation which has so frequently excited the regret and concern of this Government. The character of his successor affords less ground of apprehension than similar impediments to the cordial co-operation of the two Governments, in the prosecution of objects of common interest, will arise in future; but there are defects in it which strongly point out the importance of there being an efficient Minister for the conduct of the details of the Government, possessing equally the confidence of the Vizier and of the British Government.

24. I regret to state, that I cannot consider this object to be attained, to the extent of my wishes, by the arrangements recently made, though I conceive them to be likely to be attained with advantage to a certain extent.

25. Having deemed it to be my duty, for the reasons stated, to object to Hukeem Mehdee as Minister, his Excellency next proposed the appointment of his confidential servant, Agha Meer, to be Paishcar, and Race Dya-Krishen to be Dewan,* to act in their respective offices in the name of his Excellency's son, on whom he conferred the nominal office of Minister.

26. Not deeming myself warranted in opposing his Excellency's wishes regarding his choice of Ministers, except in a case when it might fall on a person known to be adverse to the interests of the British Government, and to the true
and

* See Enclosure, No. 12.

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and just principles of the connection between that Government and the State of Oude, I had only to acquiesce in his Excellency's selection.

27. Agha Meer, the Paishcar, has been in the Vizier's service from his infancy, and is believed to possess his confidence. He is not, however, a person of the rank, talents, or experience in business, to qualify him for the office to which he has been appointed. There is little doubt that his advice would have swayed his master, even had he remained in a private capacity; and it might, and probably would, often have been opposed to that of the ostensible minister. In this point of view, therefore, some advantage may be derived from his appointment to an ostensible and efficient office in the State.

28. The Dewan, Dya-Krishen, has long been at the head of the Vizier's revenue department, and bears a good character for integrity and knowledge of business; but he does not possess that degree of weight and influence which might be wished. I am not aware, however, that a more unexceptionable person could have been selected for the office.

29. I have no reason to doubt the attachment of both the Paishcar and the Dewan to the British Government, or their disposition to promote the interests of the two States. Indeed, notwithstanding the opinion which I have expressed of their unfitness, in some respects, for the situations to which they have been named, it would not be easy to say, adverting to the dearth of character, talent, and integrity at the Court of Lucknow, that fitter persons could be found; and I indulge a hope, that the business of the Government will be conducted with as much regularity, order, and propriety, as can be expected, under the actual circumstances of that Court.

30. I deemed it proper to be present at the investiture of the Minister and the two subordinate officers, which took place at the Vizier's palace on the 10th November. Major Baillie's subsequent reports of the conduct of the Ministers has, as your Excellency in Council will observe, been favourable.

31. Your Excellency in Council will have observed with satisfaction, from the Resident's despatch of the 6th instant,* that his Excellency has renewed in the most unqualified terms his assent to the plan of reform proposed by the British Government, and I trust that it will now be carried into effect with as much expedition as circumstances will admit.

32. His Excellency has also issued orders to his officers which, I trust, will contribute to the efficiency of the police of the Honourable Company's districts adjoining the territory of Oude. The correspondence on this subject, excepting such part as either is included in the enclosures Nos. 32 and 33, or has been already forwarded, will be separately transmitted.

33. I request that your Excellency will direct copies of this despatch and the documents enclosed in it, to be prepared for transmission at an early period to the Honourable the Court of Directors. I propose to address the Honourable Court on the subject without delay.

I have, &c.

Camp, Seharunpore,
29th December 1814.

(Signed) MOIRA.

Letter
from the Nawaub
Shums-ood-
Dowlah.

From the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, Brother of His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 3d November 1814.)

(After expressions of respect and of desire for the honour of a personal meeting:)

The state of the case is this: by reason of the infinite sorrow and unhappiness which I experienced on the demise of my father, I immediately determined to remove to Benares, to which place I am naturally attached. Accordingly, I repeatedly spoke to Major Baillie on this subject. Being still fixed in my resolution to go to Benares, and having no desire whatever to remain in Lucknow, I hope that your Lordship, in your great kindness and favour, will obtain for me the consent of his Excellency the Vizier, and the payment to me, at

* Vide page 931.

at the former city, of the monthly personal allowance of 25,000 rupees, including my present stipend, and some increase, and also of the allowance as hitherto, of 3,171 rupees 14 annas for my mother, my muhl, and my children. Let the garden at Doorga Koon and its dependencies, together with the other buildings there, and also the rumna on the banks of the Ganges, and the houses in the city situated in the Chouk, and the house known by the name of *Jetuk Raee's House*, be also made over to me, that they may become my right and property. I have further to request, that your Lordship will write with your own hand to the chief authority at Benares, directing him to afford me his aid and assistance in all matters, and that a British guard may be directed to attend me to Benares for my protection by the way. Let my stipend be discharged by regular monthly payments, agreeably to the enclosed statement; that being thus at my ease with regard to my expenses, I may pass my days in quiet, secure under the protection of the Honourable Company's Government, and full of gratitude and acknowledgments for the kindness of your Lordship and the Honourable Company.

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Letter
from the Nawaub
Shums-ood-
Dowlah.

Statement enclosed in the foregoing.

Abstract :

Monthly stipend	Rupces	28,171	0	0
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Detail :

Personal stipend	25,000	0	0
Being stipend now received.....	11,000		
Augmentation	14,000		

Allowance to my mother	271	14	0
Ditto to the ladies of the muhl	1,000	0	0
Ditto to my children, three sons, each 500 rupees	1,500	0	0
One daughter	400	0	0

Total	Rupces	28,171	14	0
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A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

To the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, Brother to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 9th November 1814.)

Letter from
Governor-General.

I have had the honour to receive your letter. (Recapitulate contents of letter received 3d November.)

You have been verbally apprized this morning, that his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier has been pleased to signify his assent to your permanent residence at Benares, and has fixed for you a stipend of two lacs of rupees per annum, including the allowances hitherto assigned for the maintenance of your mother, your muhl, and children. That stipend will be paid to you, agreeably to your request, monthly, from the treasury at Benares. You have also been informed of his Excellency's intention to grant to you the gardens of Doorga Koon with its dependencies, and the rumna on the Ganges.

I shall have great pleasure in complying with your request for a guard of British troops to attend you to Benares, and in directing the chief civil authority at that city to afford you every assistance, and to manifest towards you every suitable degree of attention and respect.

I shall be happy to learn that you have arrived at Benares in safety, and that you have found every thing agreeable to your wish.

A true copy :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

To

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To W. A. Brooke, Esq. Agent of the Governor-General at Benares.

Sir :

1. The Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, second brother of his Excellency the Vizier, having spontaneously solicited the permission of the Vizier and of the Governor-General to retire to Benares, I am directed to inform you that the Nawaub will proceed to that city as soon as his preparations for the journey can be completed.

2. A stipend of two lacs of rupees per annum has been assigned to the Nawaub by his Excellency the Vizier, and is to be paid by monthly instalments from the public treasury at Benares, and the house of Doorga Koon, and the adjacent buildings, lands, and rumna, the property of his Excellency the Vizier, have been assigned to the Nawaub for his residence. On the arrival of the Nawaub at Benares, you will advance to a proper distance from the city to meet him, and both then and during his residence there you will be pleased to manifest towards him every degree of consideration, attention, and respect, and to render his retirement honourable and easy as far as is in your power.

3. You will be pleased to correspond on this subject with the Resident at Lucknow, and to conform to the suggestions which you may receive from that officer, with respect to the ceremonial to be observed on the reception of the Nawaub, and on other points connected with the deportment to be observed towards him.

4. Major Baillie will also apprize you more particularly of the houses and lands at Benares, the property of the Vizier, which have been appropriated to the use of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Lucknow,
11th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To W. O. Wynne, Esq., Magistrate at Jounporé.

Sir :

I am directed by his Excellency the Governor-General to desire that, in the event of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, the second brother of his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, halting at Jounpore on his route to Benares, you will afford him any aid which he may require, and manifest towards him the attentions due to his rank.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Lucknow,
11th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

The same to Mr. Fortescue, Magistrate of Elahabad.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to transmit to you enclosed a copy of a letter which has this day been addressed to the Agent of the Governor-General at Benares, relative to the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah. A duplicate is also enclosed, for the purpose of being delivered to the Nawaub.

2. You will be pleased to address Mr. Brooke on the subject referred to in the third and fourth paragraphs of the enclosed instructions.

3. His Excellency the Governor-General has deemed it proper to direct the Magistrates of Jounpore and Elahabad to afford aid and manifest attention to the Nawaub, in the event of his halting at either of those stations.

I have, &c.

Camp, near Lucknow,
11th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Translation

Translation of a Paper delivered to the Governor-General by the Nawaub Shumood-Dowlah, second Son of the late Nawaub Vizier, dated 11th October 1814.

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The state of the case is this:—My revered parent, the late Nawaub Vizier, first selected me from amongst his other sons, and honoured me with the appointment of "General." Afterwards, when the Marquess Wellesley came to Lucknow, my late father was pleased to nominate me his Naib (or Prime Minister), and appointing me his Kaim Mokām (or Representative), placed my hand in that of his Lordship's, who offered me his cordial congratulations on the occasion. With his Lordship's concurrence, all my brothers and the nobles of the Court and commanders of the troops were required to present nuzzurs to me, and a salute was fired in honour of the event. During my father's life I also enjoyed various other marks of distinction, such as receiving richer and superior khillats, being deputed to represent him in the procession on the days of the two eeds (festivals), when I was attended by all my brothers, and went in the same state as if my father himself were present. Shookhas (or mandates) were issued throughout all his dominions under my seal. The Annals of Government and others received khillats in my house, and that distinction was conferred on several individuals at my recommendation. The keys of the treasuries and other places were consigned to my charge, my signature was affixed to all papers, and the English gentlemen were entertained at breakfast, and on other occasions, at my house. I was left as his representative in the capital when he went out on a hunting party, and the Resident, or his Assistant, whichever of them might be in Lucknow, came to breakfast with me. I enjoyed various other marks of distinction of a similar description, which it is unnecessary to particularize, as the British Government is fully apprized of all these circumstances, and they are as generally known as the sun in his meridian splendour. On a recent occasion, when his late Excellency perceived me depressed in spirits, in consequence of the bodily ailments under which he was then suffering, he cheered and comforted me in the kindest manner, and with that cordial affection which he always entertained for me observed, "By the divine favour I shall soon be restored to health; and as I am, in all respects, pleased and satisfied with your filial duty, submission, and becoming conduct, rest assured that my love and kindness towards you will increase every day. Do you continue to walk in the path of obedience, and to employ your precious days in the regulation of the affairs of Government, and be not uneasy or disheartened. As soon as my kind friend, the Governor General (Lord Moira), on whose gracious disposition I place the most perfect reliance, shall come here, the regulation of all the affairs of this Government, and what will tend to your interest and advantage both now and hereafter, will be accomplished by his Lordship's favour." Alas! a hundred times alas! that my father should have died before your Lordship's arrival here, leaving me wretched to deplore his untimely loss, and carrying with him to his grave all his anxious hope for an interview with your Lordship, and all his other wishes, the accomplishment of which depended on his meeting with your Excellency. This line of some one is applicable to his case: "I died in grief and carried with me this wish to my grave." Your Lordship will judge with what feelings of regret and disappointment I witnessed this dreadful calamity: my sorrow, indeed, did not leave me master of myself. Now that the spring of your Lordship's presence has given fresh verdure and beauty to these plains, and has breathed new life into my chilly frame, I am filled with confident expectation that the field of my hopes and the garden of my wishes will become more fertile and flourishing than ever, when watered by the generous shower of your Lordship's kindness and favour. Until my father drew his latest breath, I enjoyed his good opinion and his approbation of my duty and submission, and the promotion of the pleasure and satisfaction of the Governor-General and the Honourable Company entirely absorb my thoughts. I consider my welfare and advantage, and the settlement of all my concerns, to depend on the favour and grace, and the kindness and favour of your Excellency. Under these circumstances, it is evident that whatever favour and kindness shall be shewn to me, will convey peace to the spirit of my departed father, and will equally redound to your Excellency's reputation, as it will oblige me and command my gratitude.

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From the time of Shooja-ood-Dowlah till the demise of his late Excellency, no infringement of any treaty or engagement between our house and the Government of the Honourable Company has ever taken place; and from the time of my father's Government and since his death, I have never committed any action which could expose me to the displeasure of your Lordship and the British Government, and be a cause of shame and sorrow to myself or give rise to discussion. I beg your Excellency to be assured, that nothing but obedience to your Lordship and the British Government will ever be manifested by me. And now that I have taken shelter, under the shade of your favour and justice, from the scorching rays of the sun of calamity, I hope to experience whatever is worthy of your infinite kindness and distinguished favour; for I hold alone by the strong cord of your gracious consideration and regard.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Translation of a Paper (No. 1) delivered to the Governor-General by the Nawaub Vizier. (13th October 1814.)

1. Praise be to God that the Prophet has said, "I render thanks to the Most High that I was born in the age of Noshervan the just." In like manner I, who am the slave of the Prophet, unquestionably rejoice with sincerity of heart, that by the divine blessing my establishment on the hereditary musnud of the Vezārut and in the Government of my ancestors, has taken place in the time of so just and cordial a friend as your Lordship: and although, agreeably to the custom of Kings and Viziers, both past and present, and especially to the custom of this family, I possessed the right to the hereditary Government, and the musnud of the Vezārut of my ancestors belonging to me, yet if it had not been for the support and assistance of your Lordship, who is my kind friend and benefactor, it was not possible that the right should have been settled in favour of the rightful person, that is to say, myself. Therefore what has been, and what will be, is all to be ascribed to your Lordship's gracious assistance; and while I live I shall ever be bound in gratitude to your Lordship for such favour. It is a tradition of the Prophet's, that whoever has not made the return of gratitude to his benefactor for favours received, has not made the return of gratitude for the mercies of his God.

2. The degree of cordial friendship and union which have ever subsisted between the Honourable Company and this House is more evident than the sun: nay, it is beyond the power of speech or writing to express it. Notwithstanding the right to the hereditary musnud of the Vezārut was possessed by my grandfather, (Shooja-ood-Dowlah,) still at the time when this country (Oude) had fallen into the powerful hands of the Company, if it had not pleased them in their favour to continue the said hereditary possessions to my grandfather as in former times, it was not possible that the rule of this house could have endured. The favours conferred by the Company have no bounds nor measure.

3. It is universally known, that every one who takes another by the hand, considers him as himself, or reckons him as his dependant, or looks upon him as one on his own part, and consequently has always at heart to promote his interests and welfare, and daily to give more and more stability to his concerns: I, who in every point of view have been taken by the hand by your Lordship and the Honourable Company, regard the arrival of your Lordship as a particular dispensation of mercy.

4. I feel assured, that with respect to whatever will conduce to my benefit and welfare by the kindness of your Lordship, my Government (Kooar) will be strengthened under any circumstance more than ever was that of my forefathers.

5. In consequence of the firm friendship and intimate union established between the Honourable Company and my ancestors, your Lordship has been kindly and graciously pleased to act in conformity to former treaties, and to execute a treaty with me to the effect of those treaties. As by treaty

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treaty my father and grandfather were the masters and managers (Mālick-Moktaur) of their country, and had the control and management of the affairs of their Government, let me, who am in every respect under obligations to your Lordship and have been taken by the hand, have the management of my country and the affairs of my Government, in all things like my father. I regard your Lordship, who is my cordial friend, as my late father; and in like manner as it was my duty to obey him, so I shall consider it to be my duty, still more, to seek your Lordship's satisfaction.

6. In the time of my late grandfather, Shooja-ood-Dowlah, it happened that Mooneer-ood-Dowlah wrote whatever lies and calumnies he pleased to the Governor-General, Mr. Hastings, regarding Shooja-ood-Dowlah's levying troops to oppose the British Government. The Governor-General came to Benares to investigate the truth of this. My grandfather, being conscious of the purity of his intentions, came to Benares with his ladies and family in the height of the rainy season, when the roads were nearly impassable, and had a meeting with the Governor-General, who was so pleased and satisfied that he delivered the letters of Mooneer-ood-Dowlah to him, observing that their contents had been the sole cause of his proceeding to Benares. When the calumnies and mischievous designs of Mooneer-ood-Dowlah became clear, the Governor-General being extremely pleased and satisfied with my grandfather, said to him on his taking leave, that he might raise as many troops as he wished. Thus, with respect to myself, if in like manner any one make a false representation, either verbally or by letter, let it not be listened to; for in every circumstance I am, and ever will be, desirous to seek your Lordship's satisfaction.

7. After the demise of my grandfather, when my uncle, the Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, ascended the musnud of the Vezārut, all his brothers, although their stipends were small, remained submissive and obedient to him. In nowise did they swerve from the path of subjection and submission. For example, my late father, who was then at Benares and received an allowance of three lacs of rupees from Asuf-ood-Dowlah, through the Honourable Company's Government, made no objection when his brother reduced that allowance to two lacs, and was submissive and obedient. As to my brothers, who receive large stipends, and such as the Nawaub Shooja-ood-Dowlah never granted to his children, I have made no reduction in those stipends, and will not make any; but let your Lordship give them in a manner to understand, that the power of increasing and diminishing their stipends is in my hands. In that event, they will all render due obedience, and my authority will suffer no diminution; a thing which will be extremely gratifying to the heart of your Lordship, my kind friend.

8. Your Lordship may have heard, or will hear, what language is held in his own family by my brother, Shums-ood-Dowlah, at the instigation, and by the evil advice of some wicked counsellors, regarding certain matters which are contrary to the usages of this house and in opposition to the determination of your Lordship. Under all circumstances, I hold my brother as dear as my own life. No alteration shall be made in the amount of his stipend. With respect to his remaining here or residing in the Honourable Company's dominions, as the interests of both States are identified and they are one and the same, he is at liberty to do as he pleases. In the event of his continuing to reside at Lucknow, let him not object to, or excuse himself from conforming to my orders on any matters, a compliance with which is agreeable to the special usages of this Government, and will be a source of satisfaction to your Lordship.

9. Besides my late father, who resided at Benares, the Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah had many brothers who lived at Lucknow, and whose friendship and attachment to the Honourable Company were evident. Nevertheless, the Governor-General received no visits from any of them, but with the concurrence and pleasure of my father. Your Lordship is, in every respect, my kind friend. On this point, whatever your judgment shall decide will be most right and proper.

10. The British Government, some time since, suggested that Ameens should be deputed on the part of this Government into the districts of my country. My late father at times acquiesced in that arrangement, and at times procrastinated and kept it in suspense; but as soon as your Lordship's letter reached my father,

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father, stating that the measure in question had been formerly proposed by the British Government from motives of regard for his Excellency's welfare, and that now he might exercise his own discretion, my father, on the receipt of that letter, suspended the deputation of several persons whom he had appointed for that duty. At this time, agreeably to the suggestions of Major Baillie, some Amceens have been deputed into the districts; but I hope, from your Lordship's favour, that if it should appear advisable to you, I may, agreeably to former custom, with the concurrence of Major Baillie, suspend this affair: for as nothing is concealed from your Lordship, it must be known that when the Amceens shall be appointed, people will say that this arrangement never took effect in the time of the late Nawab, and now it has been carried into execution. This will expose me to ridicule and be a cause of degradation. I am confident that your Excellency will never approve of any thing which will derogate from my dignity.

11. I am desirous to place the whole of my dominions under *Amānee Tuh-seel* for collection of the revenues by the officers of Government, in distinction to the system of farming, and to prepare a plan which I wish to introduce for the benefit of my subjects, with such care, that it may be approved by your Lordship.

12. The British troops are stationed in many places within my dominions. Your Lordship, in your cordial friendship and regard, is in all matters desirous to promote the good order and regularity of the affairs of my Government. Let an order be given to the officers commanding the troops, directing them, on my requisition, with a view to the good order of the districts, to punish and chastise in an exemplary manner the Zemindars who depart from the path of obedience and payment of the revenues, and refuse to pay the dues of the Government, that thus no individual may dare to evince a refractory spirit: and with respect to the Ryots and Zemindars who may abscond from my dominions and settle in the territory of the Honourable Company, let the British Government, on notification from me, forthwith seize and deliver them up.

13. With regard to the manner in which justice was administered at Lucknow in former times, it was as it was. I now propose to vest my dear son (grandson), Mirza Mohsen Alce Khan Behauder, with the dignity of the general superintendence of the adawlut, and to divide it into three departments. The department of the adawlut for those of the Sheca sect to be committed to the charge of Molvee Syud Dildār Alce, who is qualified in every respect by his integrity and honesty, and by his learning, talents, and piety. The department of adawlut for the Soonnees to be given to Molvees of that sect who may be qualified to discharge the duties of it: and with respect to the settlement of the causes of the Hindoos, that charge will be committed to some virtuous and upright Mahajens (merchants or bankers), five in number, in whom the sect of Hindoos may place confidence; so that, by this arrangement, the suits of all the three sects will be adjudicated in the best possible manner.

14. For the protection of the city from thieves and gang-robbers and domestic broils, it is my desire to appoint several persons as guards, with a headman, after the fashion of police-officers; and I propose to cause them to execute engagements and penalty bonds, to perform their duty within their assigned jurisdictions, and to hold themselves responsible for this affair (restitution of the property stolen).

15. The persons in the employment of my late father shall be continued in their former situations, on the condition of their attendance, service, and fidelity; and otherwise, others shall be entertained in their room. Besides the former servants, no more persons are required for the good order and tranquillity of the districts, since the British troops are stationed in different quarters and at your Lordship's order, which once given is sufficient for ever. These troops, when necessary, will chastise the Zemindars.

16. Although I have not confidence in any men except the British troops as guards and sentries, yet I wish that the same persons who were always entertained for that duty by this Government may be continued in that duty as heretofore, and that the British troops may be stationed at the same places as those where they were placed as guards and sentries in the time of his late Excellency.

17. My

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17. My grandfather, Shooja-ood-Dowlah, my uncle, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and my late father, Saadut-Alee-Khan, had in every respect the power of making augmentations and reductions, and of confiscating on their demise the property and effects of the ladies of the muhl and of their own slaves. By your Lordship's favour I shall act in this affair in conformity to the established usages of this family.

18. My respected grandmother, who lives at Fyzabad, was kept in a state of irritation by my late father about many matters of trifling importance. I have removed all those causes of annoyance to my grandmother, and have made obedience and submission to her pleasure my rule of conduct in all her affairs. May God grant that she may yet live for one hundred and thirty years: but as the path to the mansions of eternity must be trodden by all, and no one can escape that common fate, when she shall be no more, I, as is the usage and practice of Kings and Viziers, and in particular of this house, am the master and proprietor (of her property). Agreeably to the usages of this Sirkar and the principles of my Government, none has any right to interfere with me with respect to it. I do not make this declaration from any avaricious motive, but because it is in conformity to the usages of our house, that thus, when the time comes, no further representation may be necessary. The persons who receive allowances from her Highness the Bhow Begum shall continue to receive them from me, on condition of attendance and obedience to my orders.

19. Although I was brought up by my father, to whom I am exclusively indebted for every thing, yet I regard your Lordship as my parent and benefactor: I therefore hope that you will constantly, and without reserve, suggest such propositions as may be calculated to strengthen my authority and to promote my benefit and advantage, and such as may not be regarded by the people as the means of exposing me to be scoffed and laughed at. Your Lordship, by doing so, will in the highest degree consult my welfare and happiness.

20. By your Lordship's kindness, Major Baillie loves me from his heart. Under the influence of this disposition, in consequence of my father's demise he visits me almost every day; and agreeably to rule, I also have gone to visit him. While Major Baillie may continue to remain here, there is no need for making any representation: after he shall have gone away, it is my wish that the practice of visiting, as observed between the Resident and my father, may be reverted to.

21. There are many persons who, having appropriated to their own use the property of this Government, call themselves dependants of the Honourable Company. As the two Governments are, in truth, but one, and no difference or separation of interests exists, whatever is for the benefit of the one is for that of the other. The loss sustained by this Government, therefore, affects the British Government in an equal degree. I do not consider the dominions and property of the two States as possessing any separate and distinct interest. If any one meditates what will be a loss to this Government, let him fall under displeasure.

22. A letter from the King of England was sent to my uncle, Asuf-ood-Dowlah, containing expressions of satisfaction, joy, and encouragement. As I look upon your Lordship as a parent, nay, in the place of the King of England himself, your Lordship is in every respect master to do whatever you please for the adjustment of all my concerns. If my concerns are not adjusted to my satisfaction in your Lordship's time, I can never hope that they will be adjusted hereafter. If it be proper, and if your Lordship shall so determine, I will prepare some rarities of this country, however unfit, to compose a suitable nuzzur for his Britannic Majesty, together with an address expressive of my respectful attachment, and send them to your Lordship to be forwarded to his Majesty. Your Lordship will be pleased to obtain for me the gratification of receiving a favourable answer.

23. All that I possess in money and effects is at the disposal of your Lordship and the Honourable Company. But of what account are money and goods: I would not even spare my own life. Now that, by the influence of my propitious stars, your Lordship has arrived here, my hope is, that you will do for me something

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something new, greater than any thing before, of such a nature that the fame of your Lordship's kindness will be celebrated all over the world. In this event my honour (izzut) will be exalted in the highest degree.

24. In conformity to an old custom of our family, my father sent such of his dependants, servants, connections, relations, and brothers, as he thought proper, to pay their respects once to the Governors-General who have preceded your Lordship. On no other occasion did those Governors-General receive any visits from any individual of my father's Government contrary to his inclination. I now trust that the same observances respecting the visits of all persons, the particulars of which may be known by a reference to the records, will still be adhered to. I am confident that your Lordship will never infringe an established rule.

25. Lacs of rupees of property, which my late father committed to the charge of my brothers, Shums-ood-Dowlah and Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, and also some escheated (or reversionary) property of my late grandmother, which is in the custody of the mother of my brother Mehdee Alee Khan, are stated by those persons to have been given to them by my father. If they can shew deeds of gift from my father regarding such property, let them be produced; otherwise that property belongs to the State. Let it be rendered up.

26. With regard to the holders of maafy lands and pensioners in the time of Asuf-ood-Dowlah, whose sources of maintenance were resumed by my late father, it is my wish that such as can shew their title to those grants, and can produce the sunnuds under the seals of Shooja-ood-Dowlah or Asuf-ood-Dowlah, should, with your Lordship's concurrence, be again put into possession of their lands or pensions as formerly. Those people are a host of piety and prayer, and this act would equally redound to the credit of your Lordship and the Honourable Company, as it would exalt my reputation.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Translation of a Paper (No. 2) received from His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, 26th October 1814.

1. In the same manner as authority was exercised over the dominions of Oude by the Nawaubs Shooja-ood-Dowlah and Asuf-ood-Dowlah and my late father, all of whom possessed the power of regulating the affairs of the Government, so in like manner let the regulation of affairs of the Government be in my power and at my discretion, without the agency of any one (*lit.* without a medium).

2. Wherever any of the Ryots and Zemindars of this State, or any of the Aumils or Tehsildars and others run away and take up their abode in the territories of the Honourable Company, let the British local authority seize those persons and send them to me.

3. Of the persons who from former times have been the servants, favourites, adherents, or dependants of this Government, some are dead and some are alive. Their jagiers and allowances continue to be held, as before, by their descendants. The latter are not deserving of such jagiers and allowances. Under these circumstances, therefore, the large jagiers and allowances are not to be continued, but each person shall have a suitable stipend assigned to him.

4. In the event of any of my servants or relations, on the resumption of their jagiers or allowances, seeking through their connexion with the Honourable Company's Government to obtain the restoration of those jagiers and allowances, let not their applications be listened to by the British Government, for this will lead to disorder, and every one will seek connexion with the British Government.

5. Since, by the aid and support of the Honourable Company, I have obtained possession of the Government of my forefathers, let the Honourable Company, under all circumstances, support and assist me.

6. Since

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6. Since the time of my late father, the amount of my expenses has increased; the diminution, therefore, of the expenses of this State, in whatever manner it may be, is intended.

7. After the demise of my father, the conduct of all my brothers has been changed, and they have become profuse in their expenses. Some other occurrences, also, which are not fit to be mentioned, have taken place. Under these circumstances, they will receive the original allowance which was first fixed for them by my father, without the subsequent augmentation.

8. The power of changing and removing the Aumils and Foujdars, and of sending Aumils, either as farmers of the revenue (Moostajers) or as collectors or trustees (Amānee) shall rest with me.

9. The system of the adawlut (administration of justice) shall be according to former custom, as it was in the time of Asuf-ood-Dowlah. One Cāzee and one Mooftie for the dispensation of justice, according to the ordinances of the law. What necessity exists for several courts of adawlut? The system of adawlut above specified shall be observed.

10. My grandmother, the Bhow Begum, who resides at Fyzabad and has attained a very great age, cannot be exempted from the general law of nature. In the event of her demise (which Heaven avert), I am her legal heir. Let her wealth and effects become the right and property of my Government.

11. Whatever increase of allowance has taken place in my time, and whatever grounds and gardens have passed into the hands of my servants and relations shall be taken back.

12. Since the time of my accession to the Government my grandmother has, contrary to former usage, taken under her own management the golaub baree (mausoleum of Shooja-ood-Dowlah) and other places, together with the muls of the late Mirza Alea Khan (brother of the Bhow Begum). Let her Highness restore them.

13. From motives of friendship and regard, the Honourable Company have stationed British troops in various parts of my dominions for their protection. This occasions a great expenditure of the Honourable Company's money. It is my sincere desire that the said troops should be stationed within the Honourable Company's frontier, and I will raise and entertain as many troops as may be necessary for the protection of the country. Whenever the British troops may be required, let them co-operate with me on my requisitions to that effect.

14. The British Resident is stationed here solely for the purpose of strengthening the friendship and harmony subsisting between the two States, and in time of need to be associated with me for the purpose of aiding and assisting my Government, either by his counsel and advice, or by affording me the support of the British troops. On occasions of my requiring support, let him co-operate with me without fail.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Mr. Rickett's Report of his Conference with the Vizier.

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Note. His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General intimated to me on the 31st ultimo, that he had received a communication from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the following effect: That Dr. Law, and not Dr. Wilson, was the physician of his choice: that he wished to remove from his service the four sons of Mirza Jāfer, as they were obnoxious to him, from being in fact spies on his actions, and receiving very exorbitant salaries, about eight or nine thousand rupees a-month. That he was anxious for his son to be appointed Minister, and as Paishcars under him Hukeem Mehdee Alea Khan and Imaum Bukhsh; and that in many respects, he was much dissatisfied with Major Baillie's conduct towards him. That his Excellency had further stated.

on

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on being asked why he had not expressed those sentiments in his conference with his Lordship, that he had been deterred from doing so, as he had been given to understand that Mr. Swinton was a particular friend of Major Baillie's.

In consequence of this communication, his Lordship desired me to wait upon his Excellency and deliver the following message to him :

That after the explicit and repeated declarations made to his Excellency by his Lordship, of the regard and friendship which he entertained for his Excellency and of his anxiety to learn his Excellency's real sentiments, and to receive from him a frank and unreserved avowal of all his wishes, with a view to enable his Lordship satisfactorily to adjust all questions relating to his comfort prior to his Lordship's departure from Lucknow, he could not fail of being surprised that his Excellency should have resorted to irregular channels for the conveyance of his wishes, instead of making them direct to his Lordship, or through the legitimate authorities ; and that his Lordship could in no way admit the validity of the cause assigned by him for not resorting to this course, as his Excellency ought to have been aware, from the peculiarly responsible and confidential situation which Mr. Swinton held, he could never allow his partiality (even admitting his alleged friendship for Major Baillie) to interfere, either directly or indirectly, with any of his official duties. That in the hope of his Excellency being fully satisfied in this point, his Lordship proposed to give his Excellency one more opportunity of disclosing his genuine feelings and sentiments, and for this purpose invited him to a conference in the evening.

At about twelve o'clock I accordingly waited on his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, who received me in a private room, and I endeavoured, as well as my imperfect knowledge of the Hindoostanee language enabled me, to convey the message from his Lordship.

His Excellency, in answer, took pains to describe his full conviction of his Lordship's kindness, and his hope that what had fallen from him regarding Mr. Swinton would not be conceived to imply any disrespect towards that gentleman, of whom he had heard the highest character. His Excellency then took a slip of paper from his cummerbund, and said that he would repeat to me the wishes which he had conveyed to his Lordship ; and his Excellency did accordingly state to me, from the paper, the circumstances explained in the preceding part of this report, and observed that what he had so stated were his wishes. His Excellency next said, that the greater part of the requests which he had to submit for his Lordship's consideration he had already drawn out ; and taking a fold of paper* from his cummerbund, requested me to present it to his Lordship, adding, " what I may have further to state I will put down on paper and deliver " to his Lordship this evening." On taking my leave, his Excellency asked me, in a significant manner, if I thought that Major Baillie's removal from Lucknow could be managed : to which I involuntarily said, " What, has not Major Baillie " been a friend to your Excellency?" His Excellency answered, " Perhaps " so ; but I have many grievances to submit for his Lordship's consideration." The conference closed by my saying that, whatever his Excellency had to expect, either in respect to Major Baillie or to any other circumstance, that he had only, in conformity to his Lordship's desire, to convey it in writing and to present it to his Lordship, who would be prepared to give specific answers to each point of reference from his Excellency.

Lucknow,
2d November 1814.

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS.

Translation of a Paper (No. 3) delivered to Mr. Ricketts by his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, 31st October 1814.

On the day of my late father's decease, neither the Resident nor any one of the English gentlemen attended the funeral. When my grandmother died, the Resident in person attended the funeral. My late father was desirous to such a degree to manifest respect to the British Government, that he sent all the respectable

* Forming No. 3 of the papers delivered by his Excellency.

respectable persons of his Court to attend the funeral of a female who had lived in the Resident's house: several English gentlemen were also present. It is a matter of regret, therefore, that the Resident should not have gone in person, nor have sent any of the English gentlemen to attend the funeral of so great a Vizier, and so old a friend of the British Government.

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In the time of my late father, the Resident applied for a sunnud of the Chowdree and Canoongoe of the purgunnah of Sandee, in the name of the Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan; but my father conceiving it to be the right of other persons would never consent. After my father's decease, Major Baillie caused me to give the sunnud for the villages of the jagier and the Chowdree and Canoongoe of the said purgunnah, and having pulled down the houses of several persons levelled them with the ground. On the occurrence of this, all the Chowdries of the said purgunnah abandoned their native home, and throughout the whole of my dominions the circumstances of this slight and lessening of my dignity became notorious.

The Resident several times applied to my late father to shut up a high road which is contiguous to the Residency, and which had never been objected to by any of the former Residents, from the time of the first construction of the Residency. My father observed, that it was not proper to shut up a high road and to occasion inconvenience to the people. After my father's death the road was shut up by the Resident for several days, which occasioned the people to open their mouths in reproach against me. Not satisfied with this, the Resident constructed a large and lofty gate which overtopped all my buildings; and as the ingress and egress of the people of my durbar were necessarily established through the middle gate of my palace, the great gelow-khana (or open court) was rendered of no use.

The whole world passes along the high road, and my rutt-khana (a place for bullock-carriages) is situated close to it. On the 10th of Shuvvaul (September 1814) the people belonging to the Resident threatened the Chowdries of the rutt-khana with the punishment of any person who should bring a carriage or rutt, or cart, along that road.

After my father's demise, the Resident stationed British guards and sentries over the treasuries and jewel-rooms and other places, and he has not yet removed them.

After my father's death, the Resident forthwith proceeded to the dwelling of Goomanee Khanum, who was one of my late father's ladies, and called her into his presence, totally regardless of my late father's honour; and in consequence of her connexion with Gorce Bebee (widow of General Martin), the Resident caused her allowance to be raised from two hundred to one thousand rupees per mensem.

The females and servants of her late Highness Shums-oon-Nissa Begum, who received less than one thousand rupees per mensem in her life-time, had their allowances raised by the Resident to the amount of four thousand; so that it may be said, the whole jumma of the jagier was settled on them.

The Resident bringing with him persons who never were entitled to sit down, caused them, in consideration of their connexions with him, to receive chairs, contrary to the usages of this Government.

The Resident, from motives of regard, caused an augmentation of five hundred rupees to be made by me, contrary to custom, to the allowance of Cāsīm Alee Khan, who was not in favour with my late father.

Whosoever of my servants and dependants goes to the Resident receives encouragement from him; and being intoxicated with this, these people do not attend to my orders.

The superintendence of the ladies of the muhls of the late Nawaubs, Salar Jung and Mirza Alee Khan (brother of the Bhow Begum), the distribution of their stipends, and the charge of all their other concerns, belonged to the Government since the time of Asuf-ood-Dowlah till my late father's death. The Resident, although it is by no means proper that he should interfere in any

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matter connected with the honour of our house, has removed my people, and placed the muhls under charge of Punnah Alee, the Vakeel of my grandmother, the Bhow Begum.

The Resident placed over me, I may say, the sons of Mirza Jāfer from the day of my ascending the musnud, in such a manner that I never had a moment's privacy from them. Mirza Hajee, who was employed in the Resident's service at a salary of two hundred rupees per mensem, was appointed by him to be in attendance on me, and this person asked for himself an allowance of five thousand rupees per mensem, and of one thousand for each of his three brothers. The Resident, although he himself performed all the duties, great and small, of this Government, did not in any manner restrain Mirza Hajee from making so extravagant a demand. As, in the expectation of your Lordship's arrival, I did not say "yes" or "no" in any matter, so in this affair I made no objection.

The style in which the retinue of the Resident proceeds has been noticed at the end of the account of the circumstances relating to my father. On the day of the Resident's coming to Enow (near Cawnpore), a horseman in my service was going along the same road. Notwithstanding every endeavour to take his horse aside, the animal being alarmed by the crowds of people and the beating and kicking, reared up. According to the representation of the Resident's people, the rider drew his sword and sought to attack Captain Fortune. As I did not see the fray myself, I cannot deny any thing which may be said; but where the clothes even did not receive a scratch, it was not proper to seek to destroy a man's life. They drove a spear into his side and hip, in such a manner that he fell on the ground as if he had been killed. Hopes of his living are not entertained. Tyrannical kings have never prevented the people from going on the road in such a manner as this. The English gentlemen cannot bear to injure even a feeble ant. The occurrence of this affair has lowered me in the eyes of the people in the greatest degree. Had I been apprized of what had passed, I should have inquired into the case, and would have punished the offender in an exemplary manner as a warning to others.

From the day of my ascending the musnud the Resident was in the habit of coming every day, of perusing the papers and accounts of the country, and of issuing, according to his own way, orders in answer to the petitions of all the Aumils and others, whatever was the duty of the Government. Without requiring from me an answer to your Lordship's letter of the 25th March to the address of my father, the contents of which had augmented his sense of obligation to your Lordship and his own satisfaction, Major Baillie proceeded to nominate the Ameens, as if I had no concern whatever with the affairs of the Government. The particulars of what is above briefly stated are these. However desirous I was that this affair should lie over until the arrival of your Lordship in this quarter, my wishes did not succeed; but, on the contrary. Major Baillie made more haste and dispatch, dividing the country into muhāls, and forming the Zillahs agreeably to the suggestions of Mirza Jāfer, and deputing Ameens, dependants of his own and dependants of his agents. If some, also, of my people were appointed, they were selected by the Resident himself, and I had no voice in the matter. He assigned the muhāl of Sandee proper, the Chowdree's right of which had been usurped by Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, to the nephew of that person, for the sake of giving support to oppression. For my own exculpation I addressed a note to the Resident, protesting against the Ameens as I know nothing about them. To this, however, he paid no attention. When the joyful tidings of your Lordship's approach were received, I pretended indisposition, to shorten his sittings with me for the dispatch of business. He gave orders to Moontuzimood-Dowlah, Mehdee Alee Khan, who had had the management of the affairs of this Government in the time of my late father, and also to Dya-Krishen, the principal person of the dufter (or office of accounts), to attend him daily at noon, when he would give them such orders for the settlement of the country as he should see proper: those persons accordingly attended him. In this case, what power and authority are left to me?

A true translation :

(Signed)

G. SWINTON,

Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Translation

Translation of a Paper (No. 4) delivered by his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Governor General, at a Conference held on the Evening of the 31st October 1814.

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Details of recent occurrences and of necessary requests.

Article 1. The golaub baree (mausoleum), and other places which have passed out of my hands at Fyzabad.

Article 2. The augmentation to Cāsim Alea Khan, contrary to usage and the practice of former times.

Article 3. The giving the place called Chunnet, which was a hunting place belonging to me, to Cāsim Alea Khan.

Article 4. The release of the son of Beshesher Naut without his being called to account.

Article 5. The wounding of the horseman without his being in fault.

Article 6. The stopping the nobut at the great gate.

Article 7. The stopping up the high road and the constructing a large gate contrary to custom.

Article 8. The intruding upon me, and giving expectations to the sons of Mirza Jāfer, and fixing their allowances.

Article 9. The allowance of the dependants of the late Begum (Shums-oon-Nissa), in comparison with what was fixed in her life-time, has been increased by him (the Resident) tenfold. Let that be fixed for them which they received in her life-time.

Article 10. The sending Ameens from among the relations of Mirza Jāfer and those of his recommendation, and the stoppage of the receipts of revenue in consequence of their deputation.

Article 11. The removal of the English guards or sentries who were stationed after the demise of my father. (This is a request.)

Article 12. Let Shums-ood-Dowlah and the mother of Jilāl-ood-Dowlah give up what they hold in trust from my father.

Article 13. When I propose to go on a hunting party let it not be forbidden.

Article 14. Whereas I desire from my heart to be in every way on terms of unanimity and agreement with the Resident, and whereas, in consequence of the matters above stated and other circumstances, vexation, and dissatisfaction have been occasioned to me by Major Baillie, as well as to my late father, who it is well known fell sick from this plague and vexation, therefore the removal of Major Baillie, and the appointment of another gentleman as Resident who may be occupied in manifesting friendship and conciliation (or respect) is necessary.

Let my son, Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan, be appointed to the office of Naib (or Minister), and on the part of my son let Moontuzim-ood-Dowlah Mehdee Alea Khan, who enjoyed the confidence of my late father, and in whose charge was the management of the country and other affairs, and who in like manner is possessed of my confidence, be appointed, or let Sheikh Imām Bukhsh be appointed; but in my opinion, Moontuzim-ood-Dowlah is better for all affairs, for he is a man of integrity and above all temptation (*lit.* one whose eye is satiated, or who has nothing to desire), and of a high family. Under these circumstances, the business of the Government will be conducted by him with integrity and fidelity, for he has been approved ever since the time of my father.

Let the system of Government be the same as in the time of the late Nawaub, The new Ameens and other Omlah (officers) who have been appointed are quite unfit and inexperienced. Let them be dismissed, and let the regulation of the Government be after my manner, and let the English troops in time of need chastise offenders.

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Dr. Law from the time of my late father holds the situation of physician, and is in my service. Let him continue to be so as before.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Report of a Message from the Vizier to Mr. Swinton and Mr. Adam, delivered by Agha Meer, Tuesday 1st November.

Agha Meer, the confidential servant of the Vizier, came with a message from his Excellency to Mr. Swinton and Mr. Adam. He commenced by saying that he was desired by the Vizier to state that his Excellency did not comprehend the conversation which passed yesterday evening at the Residency. That Mr. Clarke had given him to understand that the Governor-General was in his heart dissatisfied with Major Baillie, and that it would be pleasing to his Lordship to hear from the Vizier something that might be laid hold of against him. That his Excellency felt that he must have been deceived by Mr. Clarke, as that did not turn out to be the subject of the conference. He then went on to state that Mr. Clarke had formerly endeavoured to impress on the Vizier's mind a belief that the Governor-General was secretly displeased with Major Baillie ; that the favourable terms in which his Lordship had spoken of Major Baillie at the conference at the Nawaub's tent on the 11th of last month were merely intended as words of course ; that his Lordship repented of having made use of them ; and that, to gratify his Lordship and to procure Major Baillie's removal, his Excellency ought to represent Major Baillie's conduct in the manner which he suggested : adding, that he would inform him of circumstances which had passed in the time of the late Vizier, and of others which had occurred since his Excellency's accession, but to which his Excellency had not paid attention. That the Vizier replied, that he had no cause of discontent with Major Baillie ; that Major Baillie was his friend, and that to him he was indebted for the musnud, and that he would say nothing against him. That when Mr. Clarke continued to urge him to state grievances against Major Baillie, and to write a paper, he refused ; but said, " as it is his Lordship's pleasure, do you write what you please and I will deliver it." That Mr. Clarke did accordingly give a paper to the Vizier.

That yesterday, after Mr. Ricketts had taken his leave of the Vizier, Mr. Clarke visited his Excellency : and after again urging his Excellency to speak against Major Baillie, gave him the paper which was delivered at the conference of yesterday, telling him to say, if it he should be asked any questions, that every thing was written in that paper. Agha Meer ended by saying, that the Nawaub had spent a sleepless night and was indisposed this morning, and was anxious to unburden his mind, and that his Excellency also wished that Mr. Swinton and Mr. Adam would do him the friendly office of informing Major Baillie of these circumstances. To this they replied, that it was their duty to report to the Governor-General any communication from the Vizier, but that Agha Meer must know that they were not the channel of communication to Major Baillie, and that it was, of course, optional with his Excellency to make such communication to Major Baillie as he might think proper. Agha Meer then said, that he was charged with a communication himself to Major Baillie of these circumstances, but that the Vizier wished them also, as his Excellency's friends, to mention the subject to Major Baillie. Agha Meer was then asked whether all these particulars were communicated by the desire of his Excellency ? He replied, that they had been mentioned to him by his Excellency, and that he should now report what had passed, and would return with any further message which the Vizier might wish to send.

In the course of conversation he repeatedly stated the Vizier's friendship and regard for Major Baillie ; and in answer to a question put to him he said, that his own observation did not lead him to suppose that any discontent against Major Baillie existed in the Vizier's mind. During the conversation Agha Meer

Meer appeared to recollect himself, and said there was another subject which he was to mention, namely, that Mr. Clarke had stated to the Vizier that the Governor-General was disposed to favour the appointment of Hukeem Mehdee and Imām Bukhsh to be the Naibs under his son, and that this subject was accordingly included in the paper.

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(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government, Political Department.

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Report of a Conference held by Mr. Swinton and Mr. Adam with the Vizier, at his Excellency's Request, 2d November 1814.

Yesterday evening Agha Meer returned with a message from the Vizier, desiring our company at breakfast this morning, that he might make a communication to us: Agha Meer stated also, that Major Baillie was to be of the party. Having received your Lordship's sanction and your instructions to request an audience of his Excellency in private, for the purpose of stating to his Excellency the tenor of Agha Meer's previous communication, and of asking whether that person was authorized by his Excellency to convey any such message, we informed Agha Meer that we should attend his Excellency, and we accordingly waited on him this morning.

Shortly after our arrival we requested a private audience; and having retired with his Excellency we began by stating that Agha Meer had yesterday communicated a message on the part of his Excellency which we had reported to the Governor-General, and that his Lordship being anxious that the authenticity of it should be confirmed from his Excellency's own mouth, had desired that we would request him to state whether the message was delivered by his order. His Excellency nodded assent.

We then proceeded to state the substance of it; but his Excellency interrupted us, by saying that Mr. Clarke had informed him that it was the Governor-General's pleasure that his Excellency should state matter of inculpation against Major Baillie, with whom his Lordship was dissatisfied. That the paper was given to him by Mr. Clarke, who had deceived him by making him believe that such was his Lordship's wish. That Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Law, were concerned in this affair, and that he had dismissed them from his service, as they were the cause of interruption to the harmony between the parties (meaning, as he afterwards explained himself, the British Government and himself). His Excellency added, that he was preparing a letter to the Governor-General on the subject, and that what he had to say was written in it.

His Excellency said, that he had been informed that the Governor-General had given an order that the nobut should beat; but that when he mentioned the subject at the conference on the evening of the 31st, he found, to his surprise, that it was perfectly new to his Lordship and the gentlemen attending the conference.

The paper delivered by his Excellency to the Governor-General at the conference was then produced, and he was asked whether that was the paper which was written and given to him by Mr. Clarke on the day of the conference? His Excellency, with some appearance of hesitation and confusion, replied that Mr. Clarke had "given him the paper." We then asked his Excellency whether the paper which he had delivered to Mr. Ricketts on the same day was also given him by Mr. Clarke; to which he replied in the affirmative, but with some degree of confusion and hesitation, as in the former instance. This paper was also produced.

His Excellency then went on to say, that his genuine sentiments and wishes were contained in the two first papers delivered by him, and that those presented on the day of the conference were dictated by Mr. Clarke and the others, and that they were not his papers.

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His Excellency then looked over the paper delivered by him at the conference, and mentioned one or two articles in it as being to the same effect as those contained in his former papers. To explain this, he said that Mr. Clarke previously knew his Excellency's real wishes, and had inserted them in the latter papers as well as those articles of his own suggestion. He then particularly pointed out the article purporting that he was desirous that Major Baillie should be removed, saying "that is not mine, it is theirs."

During the conversation, and while the papers were in the Vizier's hand, Agha Meer came in unsent for; and after whispering something to the Vizier, began to repeat the message which he had delivered yesterday, his Excellency confirming the statement by words and gestures. Thinking Agha Meer's presence inconsistent with the nature of the interview, and being satisfied that the message was authentic, and adverting to his Excellency's declaration that he was stating in his letter what he wished to communicate to your Lordship, we observed to his Excellency that it appeared unnecessary to pursue the subject with Agha Meer, and he was accordingly dismissed. The remainder of the conversation consisted chiefly of a repetition of what is above stated, and of assurances, on our part, that his Excellency might state with perfect confidence and unreserve whatever he might wish to convey to the Governor-General, to whom it would be faithfully reported.

The main point of the authenticity of the message having been attained, and his Excellency leading us to suppose that the letter would contain all that had been communicated by Agha Meer, we desisted from further inquiry.

Major Baillie having arrived we sat down to breakfast; and a short time before we rose the letter for the Governor-General was brought and put into our hands.

It seems proper to state, that previously to the delivery of the letter a Persian paper was brought to his Excellency, who desired it to be shewn to Major Baillie. Major Baillie declined reading it, and it was brought to Mr. Swinton, who perceiving that it was the draft or copy of a letter to the Governor-General declined the perusal, observing that when it was received by the Governor-General he should peruse it. Major Baillie, about this time, said to Mr. Adam that the perusal of the draft of his Excellency's letter to the Governor-General had been tendered to him, and that he had declined reading it; we conclude, therefore, that the Persian paper in question was the draft of the letter afterwards delivered to us.

On rising from table we reminded the Vizier of his having signified to us his desire to make a communication and our readiness to receive his commands. His Excellency then withdrew with us, leaving Major Baillie in the outer room. His Excellency said, "Present my respects to the Governor-General and deliver that letter to him." He then repeated, on our again putting the question to him, that the two first papers were those which contained his requests, with which he hoped the Governor-General would comply, and that the two last delivered were not his papers.

We then rejoined Major Baillie, and after some indifferent conversation we all took our leave.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 2d November 1814.)

(After expressions of desire for a happy meeting):

Mr. Clarke, and some other persons, for some time past have been in the habit of saying to me that a paper containing a statement of the faults of Major Baillie should be prepared and given to your Lordship. I never would consent to this. At length, the day before yesterday, having brought a paper, he (or they),

they), in the way of deceit, stated that the giving of the paper to your Lordship would be the cause of pleasing you, and that your Lordship wished to receive from me a communication by which accusation might attach to Major Baillie. Of necessity, I conveyed the said paper to your Lordship, with a view to your Lordship's pleasure; but I have in nowise any cause of complaint or dissatisfaction with that gentleman, and he is my friend, and is in every respect the well-wisher of the Honourable Company's Government, and not a word but matters of friendship and attachment has ever passed between us. As Mr. Clarke and the other persons had been the contrivers (or authors) of this deceit and insinuation (*lit.* spell or sorcery), I have therefore caused them to be dismissed from my service, because the retaining of such persons in my service is nowise proper.

Further, may the days of your Lordship's prosperity and happiness be perpetual.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.
(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

The Governor-General's Minute.

Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, will have the goodness to wait upon the Nawaub Vizier this morning, and will please to make to his Excellency the following statements :

First. That I came to Lucknow with the most earnest wish to promote his dignity and satisfaction, by establishing all matters on what I conceive to be the just and honourable construction of the treaty existing between the British Government and the State of Oude; but I have been so perplexed by contradictory communications of his Excellency's wishes, that I really must be doubtful whether, in the steps I take, I may truly advance his comfort.

Second. That there is one point, at least, in which I can feel secure. As his Excellency complained directly to Mr. Ricketts, my confidential secretary and friend, that it was a grievance to have had the sons of Mirza Jāfer placed in his family with excessive salaries, for the purpose, as his Excellency represented it, of superintending all his actions, I cannot err in freeing him from the painful feeling which he professed to suffer, at not appearing in the eyes of his household and subjects as a free agent: I therefore earnestly solicit that his Excellency will not hesitate, should he think proper, in immediately dismissing from his service the four sons of Mirza Jāfer, as well as any other private servants who may be obnoxious to him. I make this request personal from myself, to mark to his Excellency, in this procedure, that I do not sanction any attempt to circumscribe his freedom of action in his private affairs.

Third. That another point which I am desirous of bringing to his Excellency's consideration is the nomination of a physician. That Mr. Wilson has been stated to the Governor-General, in the Vizier's name, as the person whom his Excellency is desirous of employing in that capacity. That his Excellency, however, had stated to Mr. Ricketts, as also in his supplementary paper, in express terms, for the sanction of the Governor-General, and that his Lordship had also heard it from various quarters, that his Excellency is anxious to employ Mr. Law. That this is an affair in which no other consideration but his Excellency's unbiassed wish can be permitted to operate; and that he is entreated, therefore, to name the physician of his real choice, without reserve or hesitation.

Fourth. I wish it also to be distinctly stated to his Excellency, that although the firm establishment of the Vizier on the musnud of his ancestors, under the support and assistance of the British Government, must have put an end to any hopes which might have been entertained of disturbing the legitimate order of succession, yet the known expectations of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, and his conduct at the period of the accession of his Excellency, cannot fail to render the continued residence of Shums-ood-Dowlah at Lucknow a source of uneasiness

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uneasiness and anxiety to his Excellency's mind. That it must also be a source of uneasiness to the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah himself, who cannot feel satisfied under the entire alteration of his condition since the decease of the late Vizier. That viewing all these circumstances, the Governor-General is satisfied that it is necessary, for the comfort and happiness both of his Excellency and of his brother, that the latter should retire from the territory of Oude and reside within the dominions of the Honourable Company.

That his Excellency's known liberality would lead him, of his own accord, to assign an ample provision to his brother, and that, in the Governor-General's opinion, every claim on his Excellency's justice and generosity would be satisfied, by fixing that provision at two lacs of rupees per annum.

That if his Excellency concur in this proposition, which is earnestly recommended to him on the grounds above stated, the Governor-General will communicate the arrangement to Shums-ood-Dowlah without delay, and carry it into immediate effect.

Fifth. That as I am very desirous not to leave any thing unsettled relative to those measures which I trust will be a guard to his Excellency's happiness, and as my departure from Lucknow must be very speedy, I have commissioned Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, to entreat the communication of his Excellency's wishes respecting the appointment of a Minister and his subordinates, and that I have empowered those gentlemen to discuss that important subject fully with his Excellency.

Sixth. That it is gratifying to me to believe, that the tenor of the answer which I had been preparing to the public points stated in his Excellency's first paper would have been satisfactory to his feelings. The British Government has no petty points to carry: it wishes the welfare and prosperity of his Excellency's dominions, because it regards his interest as inseparable from our own; and it studies that his Excellency should enjoy not only all the splendour and ostensible sway, but all the solid authority within his territories, which it was the honest meaning of the treaty to secure to the sovereign of Oude, subject always to the advice and representations of the Governor-General directly, or through his representative at the court of Lucknow, on all measures affecting the interests of the two States.

Seventh. I request that his Excellency may be distinctly given to understand, that this answer is kept back on account of the difficulty experienced by the Governor-General in forming a judgment of the real sentiments and wishes of the Nawaub Vizier, in consequence of the contradictory statements which have been made. These inconsistencies should be clearly pointed out, as they exist in the two papers first delivered, and the successive declaration and retraction of the requests contained in the papers delivered on the 31st ultimo, when his Excellency had, in the most confidential and unreserved manner, imparted to Mr. Ricketts, to be laid before the Governor-General, those very requests. His Excellency ought also to be apprized, that the gentlemen now charged with having instigated his Excellency against Major Baillie desire to attest on oath before the Council, that the agitation of the subject was spontaneously urged upon them by the Vizier and reluctantly submitted to by them. That to clear up these difficulties and to bring out his Excellency's genuine wishes, it is particularly requested by the Governor-General that he will well weigh all the circumstances, and allowing no bias or apprehension to interfere with him, finally to deliver to the Governor-General his ultimatum, stating distinctly and explicitly the nature and object of the several wishes which his Excellency may have to prefer for the consideration of his Lordship.

Eighth. It is farther to be explained to the Nawaub Vizier, that as Mr. Clarke is charged with having insinuated it to be the Governor-General's wish to obtain grounds of crimination against Major Baillie, it behoves his Lordship to enquire distinctly whether his name has been made use of by any one, to influence the Nawaub Vizier in sending the message of Agha Meer to Mr. Adam and Mr. Swinton,

Swinton, or in framing his Excellency's last letter to the Governor-General : and the Nawaub Vizier is to be informed that the Governor-General puts that question in the most solemn manner to his Excellency's honour.

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Lucknow,
3d November 1814.

(Signed) MOIRA.

Report of a Conference held by Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, with His Excellency the Vizier, on the 4th of November 1814.

Conference
with the Vizier.

His Excellency the Vizier received us at one of his villas (Arnott's house), and having led us into a private room we opened the business of our deputation without delay.

We informed him that we were commissioned by the Governor-General to make a communication to his Excellency on some matters of importance: that, for the sake of greater precision and correctness, the substance of it had been committed to writing; and that, with his Excellency's permission, we would read over the paper, which Mr. Swinton held in his hand, from beginning to end, without entering into any conversation on the subject, after which we would proceed to the discussion of each point separately.

His Excellency having assented, Mr. Swinton proceeded verbally to translate the contents of the paper to the Vizier. He had scarcely pronounced the words referring to the contradictory statements made to the Governor-General, before he was interrupted by his Excellency, exclaiming that his wishes were expressed in the two first papers; that Mr. Clarke and the others, by deceit, made him write the others, which he disclaimed; that he had dismissed them from his service; that he wished to withdraw the papers; and that he would prepare another, under his seal, containing his genuine wishes, and deliver it to the Governor-General. During this discourse he adverted to the circumstance regarding the nobut, stated at the conference of the 31st ultimo as that which had opened his eyes, and shewed him that the name of the Governor-General had been used without authority, and that he had been deceived. The easy and natural manner in which these observations were made by the Vizier had every appearance of his speaking from the real dictates of his heart.

When his Excellency had finished, we again requested his permission to read the paper to the end, and begged that he would reserve what he wished to communicate to us until each point should be separately discussed.

We beg leave in this place to state, that we pursued this method, in order that his Excellency being fully apprized of the subjects on which we were instructed to confer with him, might be relieved from any embarrassment or apprehension of what was to follow the discussion of any one question, and be encouraged to speak his mind fully on each.

With some occasional interruptions from the Vizier, which it is not necessary to particularize in this part of our report, we accomplished the perusal of the paper.

On hearing the eighth and last paragraph, his Excellency not quite comprehending the nature of the solemn appeal to his honour which we were desired to make, appeared to be hurt at the suspicion which he conceived it to imply that what he had said required such a confirmation. He repeatedly asserted in the most earnest manner, that what he had said of the practices of Mr. Clarke and the other gentlemen was true; that they had influenced his mind by making use of the Governor-General's name; and that their denial of the fact was entirely false. We again explained the nature of the question, observing how important it was that the Governor-General should be satisfied whether any unauthorized use had been made of his name: and we again put the question to him distinctly, whether his Lordship's name had been used to influence him in sending to Mr. Adam and Mr. Swinton the message conveyed by Aga Meer, or in writing his last letter to the Governor-General, disclaiming the two last papers, and charging Mr. Clarke and the others with having improperly used the Governor-General's name. His Excellency denied, in the most direct and

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positive manner, that any person had employed the Governor-General's name for these purposes, or that he had been influenced by any bias or apprehension of the displeasure of any one to send that message or write that letter, adding that they were the genuine dictates of his own heart.

Having satisfied ourselves that his Excellency fully understood the purport of the last paragraph, as well as that he had comprehended the whole of the preceding ones, we conversed for a short time on indifferent topics, with a view to relieve his Excellency's mind and attention and enable him to recollect himself.

We then proceeded to state the substance of each article and discuss them separately.

In reporting what passed on each, we shall give the substance of the remarks which casually occurred during the first perusal of the paper, without distinguishing it from the more regular conversation which now ensued.

*First. Contradictory Statements
of the Vizier's wishes.*

On this subject his Excellency repeated his former assertions, that Mr. Clarke and the others had deceived him, and led him astray by the use of the Governor-General's name to persuade him to inculcate Major Baillie; that Major Baillie was his friend; and that he had no cause of complaint against him. His Excellency begged that he might have the two last papers back, and said that he would prepare another, under his seal, containing his real sentiments. We at first wished to avoid restoring the papers, saying that the contents having been communicated to the Governor-General they must form matter of record; but that they would not be considered as expressive of his Excellency's wishes, excepting in as far as they might be confirmed by the paper which he now proposed to deliver. On further consideration, however, we thought it advisable to return all the papers, telling his Excellency that we hoped they would be given back for the purpose of being recorded, and repeating our former assurance. The papers were accordingly delivered. In order to connect the subject, we have, in the foregoing statement, anticipated a part of what passed in conversing on the subject of paragraph 7.

*Second. The Sons of Mirza
Jāfer and other obnoxious House-
hold Servants.*

We readily perceived that his Excellency's disposition was adverse to the sons of Mirza Jāfer, and that he was gratified by the manner in which he was encouraged to discharge them if they were disagreeable to him. He did not at first like to speak out; but he at last said that he would discharge them when they committed a fault, as it was not the custom to discharge servants suddenly and without a colourable cause; that it was discreditable to a man of rank to do so, and that it would shake the confidence of his other servants: adding that it did not become a prince suddenly to break the hearts of his servants. He concluded by saying, that as his Lordship had given him permission to discharge such of his household servants as he pleased, he would find an opportunity of dismissing the sons of Jāfer. In order to give his Excellency confidence on this subject, we went so far as to tell him that it was not only the Governor-General's wish, as stated in the paper which he had heard read, that his Excellency should be entirely free in the choice of his domestic servants, but that it would be a positive gratification to his Lordship to see dismissed from his service persons whom he felt assured were disagreeable to him.

Third. The choice of a Physician.

When we recurred to this point, his Excellency said that a communication had been made by Major Baillie, at his desire, to the Governor-General at Baroun, on the day of the elephant fight, respecting his desire to employ Mr. Wilson; that he did not wish to employ Mr. Law; that it was not proper to change one's physician, and that it was not even the practice of the English gentlemen. We remarked on this, as delicately as we could, that as Mr. Law had been his Excellency's physician, he would, by now selecting Mr. Wilson, do that which he condemned. His Excellency instantly, and in a manner calculated to convey complete conviction, exclaimed that Doctor Wilson was always the physician of his choice: that in his father's life-time he used to procure medicines from him by stealth, although Mr. Law was nominally his medical attendant: that he would never take Mr. Law's medicines,

medicines, whose attendance was disagreeable to a sick person. He then mentioned an instance of Mr. Law having attended him in a serious illness in which he gave him great dissatisfaction : on the whole, we were fully persuaded, both by his Excellency's words and manner, that his genuine wish is to employ the services of Mr. Wilson.

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with. *Shums-ood-Dowlah.*

His Excellency fully acquiesced in the propriety of the removal of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah from the territory of Oude, and assented to his residing in any part of the Company's dominions which he might prefer, naming of himself Benares or Patna.

We then repeated the Governor-General's opinion with respect to the amount of the stipend to be assigned to him. The amount appeared to his Excellency to be too great. He repeatedly said that he had many other brothers, who would also expect large allowances; and asked whether what Shums-ood-Dowlah received now was a trifle, calculating it at nearly a lac and a-half of rupees per annum. We observed, that the case of Shums-ood-Dowlah was too different from that of his other brothers, to admit of its being made a ground of claim on their part for an increase of stipend; that his allowance was already much larger than those of his other brothers; that in his father's life-time he had held a situation of high dignity and importance, and that his claims were proportionably great: that he was now deprived of all his authority and influence, and about to become an exile from his native country: that all these considerations ought to operate in his favour, as far as related to a liberal provision for him: that the removal or continued residence in Oude of the other brothers was a matter referring only to his Excellency's pleasure, but that the removal of Shums-ood-Dowlah was a measure of State, recommended to him by the Governor-General on grounds of public expediency, and that therefore, in this instance also, no analogy could be found between his situation and that of their younger brothers. We urged the importance to his Excellency's reputation that his brother should not be sent away without a sufficient and even a liberal provision; and we instanced the case of his late father, who at one time received even three lacs of rupees per annum. His Excellency informed us that he would consider the subject and give his answer without delay. We informed him, that it was desirable to receive it early, as in cases of this nature the adoption of the resolution should be instantly followed up by its execution: that on knowing his Excellency's final sentiments, the Governor-General would communicate the arrangement to Shums-ood-Dowlah and carry it into immediate effect. His Excellency intimated a wish, that the communication should be made by himself to Shums-ood-Dowlah; but we recommended that no step should be taken until the question respecting the stipend was finally arranged. To this his Excellency assented.

th. *Appointment of a Minister and his subordinates.*

His Excellency declined any discussion on this subject, and said that he would communicate his wishes in writing without delay. We observed, that on this question and the preceding one relative to Shums-ood-Dowlah, it would be satisfactory to receive an early communication of his Excellency's sentiments, as the Governor-General would be desirous of settling them before his departure from Lucknow, which was now drawing near. His Excellency replied, that on these points he would write forthwith, reserving the others for a subsequent communication.

th. *Referring to the intended measures, the Vizier's first papers, laying the general principle on the British Government will regulate its conduct with relation to the state of Oude.*

His Excellency expressed his full confidence in the Governor-General's justice, friendship, and kindness, and his own desire to act in a manner to merit them. He admitted, in the fullest manner, the right of the British Government and the Resident to offer advice in the measures of his Government, and his own obligations to square his conduct according to that advice.

enth. *Answers deferred on account of the contradictory statements of his Excellency's wishes, as given by Mr. Clarke and the others: charge alleged against them.*

His Excellency said again, that he should prepare without delay, under his seal, a statement of all his wishes. He referred to the paper given at Cawnpore as containing his requests, and we took this occasion to point out some of the inconsistencies between the first and second papers: for example,

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with the Vizier.

example, the articles relating to the system of collection and those relating to the courts of justice. He said they would all be reconciled, and his real wishes given in the paper to be now prepared. With respect to the collections, he said that in Asuf-ood-Dowlah's time, and in the early part of Saadut Alee's, the system of amānee tuhseel prevailed, but that it was succeeded by the farming system, and that his wish was to revert to the former one.

On coming to the passage respecting the denial by Mr. Clarke and Captain McLeod of the charge of having urged him to inculcate the Resident, and of his Excellency's having instigated them to do so, and their readiness to attest this on oath, his Excellency pointedly and repeatedly declared, as he had done before, that it was false, and that whatever oaths they might take they were unworthy of belief: that for himself, he was now so displeased with their conduct, that he had dismissed them from his service. We pursued this subject for some time, and his Excellency in the course of the conversation, partly of his own accord and partly in reply to our questions, said that Mr. Clarke, Captain McLeod, Mr. Law, and Mr. De L'Etang, consulted together in this business: that Captain McLeod used to speak to him on the subject when they drove out together in a carriage, which his Excellency had got from Captain McLeod: that Doctor Law also used to speak to him on these matters; and that he first suggested the removal of Major Baillie, whose enemy he was, because he ascribed to his (Major Baillie's) influence the Vizier's preference of Doctor Wilson to Mr. Law as a medical attendant: that Mr. Clarke frequently gave advice and prepared the papers for him: that he had no direct communication with Mr. De L'Etang, but that he was a party to the consultations: that his Excellency delivered the two last papers under the impression which he had received from Mr. Clarke and the other gentlemen, that the Governor-General would be gratified by it. His Excellency further declared, that he fully understood Mr. Rickett's communication to him on the occasion of his visit to his Excellency on the 31st of October, and that what he then said to Mr. Ricketts was prompted by Mr. Clarke. We expressed some surprise at so sudden a change in his Excellency's sentiments in the short period which elapsed between the conference at which he delivered his last paper, and the deputation of Agha Meer. His Excellency, without the least embarrassment or hesitation, replied, "There was a cause. " On my mentioning at the conference the nobut, I plainly observed that " neither his Lordship nor yourselves seemed to know any thing about it, " whereas I had been distinctly given to understand that my wish for the nobut " to beat at the new nobut-khana had been stated to his Lordship, and they " told me to beat it without delay as his Lordship had sanctioned it. Seeing " that the circumstance was new to his Lordship, it instantly struck me that " deception had been practised upon me. I passed a sleepless night, and the " next morning I, of my own free will, determined to dismiss Mr. Clarke " and the others from my service, and sent the message by Agha Meer."

We concluded by repeating what we had said during the conversation above reported, that the Governor-General had no object but the promotion of his Excellency's dignity, comfort, and satisfaction. That to enable his Lordship to give effect to this desire it was necessary that he should know the full extent of his Excellency's wishes, we therefore entreated him to conceal nothing; and as a proof of the advantage of declaring his wishes without reserve, we instanced the nobut, of which the Governor-General would have had no knowledge, and in which his Excellency's wishes could not have been obtained if he had not imparted it to the Governor-General.

His Excellency fully comprehended all that we said to him, and made short notes of some of the points which were the subject of the conference.

The whole of his Excellency's manner and conversation impressed us with a conviction that he spoke to us with freedom and confidence. He was perfectly unembarrassed, and in the intervals of the conversation on business conversed with gaiety and cheerfulness on common topics. Among other matters, on one of us inadvertently styling Captain McLeod "Major," he corrected the mistake, and said, in a jocular manner, "Mr. Clarke ordered his
" servants

“servants to call *him* Major, and wished me to make him an Aide-de-Camp.” His Excellency, seemed highly amused at this story.

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We took our leave after a conference of upwards of three hours' duration.

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS,
J. ADAM,

Secretary to the Government, Political Department.

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

From His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 4th November 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier

Not having discerned the drift of the counsel and the insidious views (*lit.* deceit and incantation) of Mr. Clarke and the others, I lately gave to your Lordship the papers those persons wrote and brought to me. Now that I place no trust in the counsel of those persons, and doubt and uncertainty have arisen in my mind, so in like manner I entertain doubt and distrust respecting the contents of the papers in question. Under these circumstances, I hope, from your parental kindness and favour, that your Lordship will be pleased to return to me the whole of those papers, that after carefully examining and considering their contents, I may commit to paper whatever necessary and proper requests it may be my wish and desire to bring before your Lordship, when I will affix my seal to the paper and transmit it to your Lordship, for in every respect I hope for the prosperity and success of my affairs from your Lordship.

A true translation :

(Signed) GEO. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 7th November 1814.)
(After expressions of desire for a personal meeting.)

Letter
from the Vizier

It must be quite clear and evident to your Lordship, that it is very difficult to regulate the affairs of the State, and to transact all business connected with the civil and revenue branches of the Government, without the appointment of a trusty and faithful Minister possessed of integrity and honesty. I consider my prosperity and welfare to depend on your Lordship's parental favour and kindness, and I wish that all the arrangements of my Government should be made with the sanction of your Excellency's concurrence and advice : I therefore propose that Race Dya-Krishen, who has hitherto been employed in keeping the civil and revenue accounts, should be confirmed in that office. It was also my intention formerly, that the management of the civil and revenue affairs should be committed to Rajah Bhuwanee Purshād, because he had apparently acquitted himself well on the part of the late Almass Alee Khan in the settlement and management of many muhāls. As I do not, however, possess a thorough knowledge, such as is requisite, of all the circumstances of his character, it is therefore most advisable and expedient that I should nominate and appoint, on the part of my dear son Mirza Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder Khan, the respectable Agha Meer, of whose virtue, integrity, honesty, fidelity, and attachment, I entertain a high sense, that he may be entrusted with the conduct of affairs and carry on the business of the State. As the communication of this affair to your Lordship is one of my indispensable duties, I now state it in writing. Your Lordship having returned to me the papers of requests which I formerly gave to you, it is now my intention, after your Lordship's departure, to prepare a paper under my seal, which shall contain my necessary requests, and to transmit it in a letter to your Lordship, with the hope that you will be pleased to signify your acquiescence in those requests by returning the paper to me with your seal affixed.

Further, may the days of your happiness be perpetual.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter from
Governor General.

To his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 8th November 1814.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter. (Recapitulate contents of letter received 7th November.)

The arrangement which your Excellency has proposed, namely, that Raee Dya-Krishen should be continued in his present office of adjusting the accounts of the civil and revenue branches of your Government, and that Agha Meer should be appointed on the part of your Excellency's son, Mirza Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder, to transact the business of the State, appears to me to be entirely unobjectionable: and as I could have no desire but that your Excellency's wishes should be fulfilled in every respect where some marked consideration of our common interest did not oppose them, I have only to signify my cheerful concurrence in your Excellency's proposition.

A true copy :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Captain McLeod.

Sir :

I am directed by his Excellency the Governor-General to transmit to you the enclosed memorandum of the substance of a communication made to his Lordship by his Excellency the Vizier, and to desire that you will state in writing, for his Lordship's information, any explanation which you may wish to offer, relative to the charge which it involves against you of interfering in the public affairs of the Government of Oude.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

The same to John Law, Esq. and Mr. De L'Etang.

Communication
from the Vizier.

Substance of a Communication from His Excellency the Vizier to the Governor-General.

That Captain McLeod, Mr. Law, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. De L'Etang, had invited and encouraged his Excellency to lay before the Governor-General matter of charge against Major Baillie, with a view to accomplish his removal from the office of Resident at Lucknow, and that they informed his Excellency that by this procedure he would gratify the Governor-General, who was displeased with Major Baillie. His Excellency states, that this subject was pressed upon him at various times by Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Law; and that although he had no personal communication with Mr. De L'Etang, that gentleman was a party in the consultations of the others. That Captain McLeod was accustomed to take the opportunity of accompanying the Vizier to drive out in a carriage, to converse with his Excellency on the subject. That Mr. Law first suggested taking measures for effecting the removal of Major Baillie, being hostile to that officer from a belief that the Vizier was influenced by him to prefer Mr. Wilson to Mr. Law as his medical attendant. That Mr. Clarke frequently urged him to bring forward matter of inculpation against Major Baillie, and persuaded him that by so doing he would please the Governor-General. That on his urging his Excellency to draw up a paper containing matter of that description, his Excellency refused, but at length told Mr. Clarke to write what he pleased and he would present it, being led to believe that it was the Governor-General's desire. That Mr. Clarke accordingly prepared and gave him a paper. That the discourse held by the Vizier with Mr. Ricketts, at that gentleman's conference with him on the 31st October, was prompted by Mr. Clarke and was to the following effect: viz. that Doctor Law, and not Doctor Wilson, was the physician of his Excellency's choice; that he wished to remove from his service the four sons of Mirza Jāfer, as they were obnoxious to him, being in fact spies on his actions, and receiving very exorbitant salaries, about eight or nine thousand rupees a month; that he was anxious for his son to be appointed Minister, and Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan and Imām Bukhsh, Paishcars under him; and that in

in many respects, his Excellency was much dissatisfied with Major Baillie's conduct towards him.

That after Mr. Ricketts took his leave, Mr. Clarke waited on His Excellency, and gave him the paper which he presented to the Governor-General at the conference which he held with his Lordship at the Residency on that evening.

His Excellency has further stated, that Mr. Clarke informed him that the Governor-General was disposed to favour the appointment of Hukeem Mehdee and Imām Bukhsh to be Naibs under his son.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

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Communication
from the Vizier.

To James Henry Clarke, Esq.

Sir :

1. I am directed by his Excellency the Governor-General to transmit to you the enclosed memorandum of the substance of a communication made to his Lordship by his Excellency the Vizier, and to desire that you will state in writing, for his Lordship's information, any explanation which you may wish to offer, relative to the charge which it involves against you of interfering in the public affairs of the Government of Oude.

2. A copy of the paper stated to have been given by you to the Vizier is enclosed, and you will be pleased to return it to me.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

I only to-day had the honour to receive your letter of yesterday's date, covering a memorandum of the substance of a communication made to his Excellency the Governor-General by his Highness the Vizier, and requiring of me such explanation, for his Lordship's information, relative to the charge it involves against me as I may wish to offer.

I most solemnly deny that I ever invited his Highness the Vizier to lay before his Excellency the Governor-General matter of charge against Major Baillie, with a view to effect his removal from office ; but admit, that I agreed with his Highness in opinion, that the removal of Major Baillie was essential to the establishment of his authority and independence.

I also most solemnly deny, that I ever led his Highness to believe that the Governor-General would be gratified by any such procedure, or that he was displeased with Major Baillie. It is, consequently, unnecessary to state that I never *pressed* these subjects upon his Highness.

It is true that I was in the habits of attending his Highness of an evening to drive out with him in his carriage, at his particular desire, and that he on those occasions always assailed my ears with his grievances, and that I was constrained to hear him from motives of humanity, my feelings having been excited by them.

In conclusion, I have only to express my firm belief, that the person named Agha Meer, in the service of the Nawaub, acting in the interest of another or others, has betrayed and deceived his master ; that he has been in the habits of fabricating stories and making use of the Governor-General's name, in a manner to intimidate the Nawaub to make the subsequent declaration detailed in your memorandum. Should his Lordship be pleased to order an investigation into this matter, I hope to be able to prove to his satisfaction, on the evidence of several persons on oath, that my representation is founded in truth.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th November 1814.

(Signed) D. McCLEOD,
Captain, Engineers.

To

Letter from
Captain McLeod.

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7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Mr. Clarke.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing a memorandum of the substance of a communication made to his Excellency the Governor-General by his Excellency the Vizier, and desiring that I shall state in writing, for his Lordship's information, any explanation which I may wish to offer, relative to the charge which it involves against me of interfering in the public affairs of the Government of Oude; enclosing also a copy of a paper stated to have been given by me to the Vizier, and which I have the honour to return to you herewith, agreeably to your desire.

In answer to the substance of the communication, I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to inform his Excellency the Governor-General, that I never invited his Excellency the Vizier to lay before the Governor-General matter of charge against Major Baillie, with a view to accomplish his removal from the office of Resident at Lucknow, nor have I ever informed his Excellency the Vizier that such a procedure would gratify the Governor-General. I never urged his Excellency the Vizier to draw up a paper containing matter of charge against Major Baillie, nor have I ever framed a word, sentence, or article of such a nature. I have never received orders or leave from his Excellency the Vizier to draw up a paper of that description, nor have I ever solicited orders or leave to that effect. I attended his Excellency the Vizier to the review and to breakfast on the same day at the Residency, but did not attend him home from the Residency after breakfast. It was not likely I could have known in the morning before the review or breakfast, that Mr. Ricketts, the principal Private Secretary to the Governor-General, would visit the Vizier on that day, or at any subsequent period; nor did I see, hear from, or send to the Vizier after breakfast on that day, until late in the evening, and after Mr. Ricketts had been with him, when I happened to attend to ask his Excellency the Vizier if he had any commands for me, and he desired me to go home, dress, and come and attend him to dinner at the Residency. I declare, that the discourse held by the Vizier on that day, the 31st October, or at any other period, to Mr. Ricketts, as stated in the memorandum or otherwise, was not prompted by me: and I most solemnly declare before God, that the Persian paper of which I have been favoured with a copy, signed by George Swinton, Esq., Persian Secretary to the Governor-General, was never framed, or drawn up, or copied by me, under my eye, or by my order or direction; and I most solemnly declare before God, that so far from giving that paper to the Vizier (and I beg leave to repeat and declare that I did not give it), I did not give any paper whatever after Mr. Ricketts took leave of the Vizier that evening, nor in the morning, nor during that day, nor did I cause or direct any paper to be given to him on that day. May I beg the favour of your adverting to and reflecting on the improbability that the Vizier, a man of education, of forty years of age, and a prince, would give an unlimited authority to me, or any other person, to frame a paper of such importance and magnitude, and contrary to his own judgment and discretion, and without grounds; the improbability that he would present a paper of that description, really not framed or approved of by himself, to the Governor-General, and the improbability that I should be in possession of all the matter contained in that paper, and capable of arranging it as it is in a foreign language, in which Major Baillie knows that I am not a proficient, and which in fact I have never studied or acquired any considerable smattering of. Captain McLeod has authorized me to say, that he has received satisfactory information respecting that paper, viz. that Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, by authority of the Vizier, delivered it to the Vizier, and Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan has acknowledged this to Captain McLeod. Whilst the Vizier was waiting for Mr. Wilson to come to attend him to the Residency that evening, Captain McLeod and I saw Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan put two papers, one after the other, into the Vizier's hands, uttering some words in a low tone, which we did not understand; nor did we know what papers these were, but the Vizier put them into his pocket.

In regard to what the disposition of the Governor-General respecting the appointment of Ministers and other officers under the Vizier might be expected

to be, whenever the Vizier occasionally adverted to or dropped a word confidentially in the course of conversation on such subjects, I thought it my duty to state, when I could not help replying and was urged by his anxiety, that he, the Vizier, had every thing to hope and to expect from the justice, liberality, kindness, and enlightened and expanded mind of the Earl of Moira, as to his (the Vizier's) independence, comfort, happiness, and wishes, as far as might be reasonable and practicable. That my situation in the family of the Vizier for many years rendered me subject to hear such topics, both from the late and present Vizier, I lament, and request that you will be pleased to state to his Lordship, that I shall ever continue to lament it, and that I solicit pardon for any incorrectness on my part on what has passed, and beg leave to apologize for inaccuracies in form, &c. in this letter.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
9th November 1814.

(Signed) J. H. CLARKE.

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Letter
from Mr. Clarke.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to the Government.

Sir :

Letter
from Mr. Law.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 8th instant, transmitting, by direction of his Excellency the Governor-General, a memorandum of the substance of a communication made to his Lordship by his Excellency the Vizier, and desiring that I will state in writing, for his Lordship's information, any explanation which I may wish to offer, relative to the charge which it involves against me of interfering in the public affairs of the Government of Oude.

2. It is with feelings of extreme mortification and unfeigned regret, that after a residence at Lucknow for upwards of five years, during the whole of which period I enjoyed with unimpeached integrity a confidential situation in the household of his Highness the late Vizier, I find myself most unexpectedly called upon, within a few months of his death, to answer charges preferred by his son, of a nature so serious as those conveyed in his communication to the Governor-General, and which, as far as regards me personally, may be reduced, I believe, to the following heads :

First.—Having, in concert with Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. De L'Etang, invited and encouraged his Excellency to lay before the Governor-General matter of charge against Major Baillie, with a view to accomplish his removal from the office of Resident at Lucknow, and informing his Excellency that by such a procedure he would gratify the Governor-General, who was displeased with Major Baillie.

Secondly.—Pressing this subject upon his Excellency at various times.

Thirdly.—Suggesting the taking measures for effecting the removal of Major Baillie, being hostile to that officer, from a belief that the Vizier was influenced by him to prefer Mr. Wilson to myself as his medical attendant.

3. Disclaiming, as I do in the most solemn manner, any and every communication of the nature alluded to with his Excellency the Vizier, I am really at a loss for language which, while it preserves the respect due to his Excellency's rank, shall convey in a sufficiently peremptory manner, that most unconditional denial of the whole of the charges in question, which I feel it due to my character to record in refutation of them.

4. When I advert to that degree of intimacy between his Excellency the Vizier and myself, which was induced by my constant attendance on the person of his father and himself, to the very high opinion of me which his father, in his presence, was pleased so repeatedly to express, and to the many assurances of affectionate regard which I have received from himself, both before and after his accession to the musnud, I am unable to conjecture from whence the idea of preferring these charges against me has originated in the mind of his Excellency.

5. Had these charges been confined to an interference in the public affairs of the Government of Oude, I should have contented myself with this most

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Letter
from Mr. Law.

unequivocal denial of them, and with challenging the production of the slightest shadow of a proof in confirmation of his Excellency's assertions. As, however, he has thought proper not only to tax me with a conduct which I most solemnly disavow, but to assign as a motive for that conduct an hostility to Major Baillie, from a belief that the Vizier was influenced by him to prefer Mr. Wilson to myself as his medical attendant, I think it my duty to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General, the following statement of the only communications I have had with the Vizier since his accession to the musnud, regarding my own appointment.

6. In the month of July, soon after the Vizier was placed on the musnud, I received not only the usual complimentary presents, but several polite messages to enquire after the state of my health, which was at that time much affected by a severe attack of the gout. A few days subsequent to his accession, I was further honoured by a visit from himself in person, accompanied by the Resident, and he was shortly afterwards pleased to repeat his visit attended by Captain McCleod. On those occasions, his Excellency was kind enough to evince the most tender concern at my illness, and to express an earnest hope that I should soon be sufficiently recovered to resume my attendance on his person; requesting, at the same time, that I would on no account endanger a relapse by venturing out too soon, as he found himself in the enjoyment of most perfect health.

7. On the 6th of August, being sufficiently recovered to go out, though extremely weak, I paid my respects to the Vizier at the usual hour of breakfast, and continued in attendance from that day until the 10th, being on every occasion received with the most marked and friendly attention. While at breakfast on that day, His Excellency evinced symptoms of indisposition and immediately retired to his apartments, to which I followed him, as I had been accustomed to do his father in his life-time. On my arrival at the door, I was informed by the sentry that I could not be admitted. Conceiving this, however, to be a mistake, I proceeded to another entrance, when to my great surprize I found his Excellency and Mr. Wilson in consultation together. I immediately apologized for my intrusion and retired. On the succeeding morning similar circumstances occurred with regard to the Vizier's illness, and I was proceeding to his apartments, when I was met by the Resident, who informed me that the Vizier was unwell, that he had a message to deliver to me from his Excellency, the purport of which was to the following effect: that the Vizier was distressed beyond measure at my having found himself and Mr. Wilson in consultation together on the preceding morning, and was anxious to prevent a similar occurrence; that he was desired by the Vizier to state to me that he entertained the highest respect and esteem for my character; that he considered me as his friend; that as Mr. Wilson had attended on his person for the last ten years, he had the greatest confidence in his abilities as a professional man, and was desirous of retaining him as his physician. At the same time he trusted that I would not be offended at this communication, as he was anxious to continue me in his service; that the arrangement proposed was, that Mr. Wilson should be the Vizier's personal surgeon, and myself surgeon to his household. Major Baillie remarked, that I must be well aware that the Vizier had a right to appoint any medical gentleman he thought proper: to which I answered, "most assuredly, but not at the expense of my feelings." After some trifling conversation I took my leave. On my return home I addressed a note to Major Baillie, a copy of which, together with his reply, accompanies this letter.

8. The agitation produced upon my mind by these communications brought on so severe an attack of the gout, that I was again confined to my room; and whilst labouring under this relapse, being anxious to ascertain how far the Vizier's sentiments corresponded with his former professions of regard and attachment, I addressed a letter to him in Persian, intimating the nature of Major Baillie's communications, and requesting to know if I was to consider it as declaratory of his Excellency's intentions. The Vizier's reply was in substance similar to Major Baillie's verbal intimation. It was then my intention to have resigned my appointment; but, prior to my adoption of this line of conduct, I thought it advisable to see his Excellency, and accordingly waited on him as soon as the state of my health permitted. On my entering his apartment the
Vizier

Vizier appeared in great agitation, and ere I had time to acquaint him of the object of my visit embraced me most cordially, and with tears in his eyes declared that in his late conduct towards me he was not a free agent, but had acted in conformity to the orders of the Resident, with whom the whole had originated; that it was in obedience to Major Baillie's directions that he had consulted Mr. Wilson, and that his regard for me was unalterable. His Excellency concluded this conversation by a request that I would rest satisfied for the present with these assurances, and on no account think of leaving his service.

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7 Mar. 1814.

Letter
from Mr. Law.

9 Shortly subsequent to this I received messages to a similar effect from Captain McCleod; and these at later periods have been repeated through the same channel, as well as through Mr. Clarke; in every instance, I have understood from both these gentlemen, at the earnest and express desire of his Excellency.

10. On the occasion of the birth of my child in August, his Excellency took this further opportunity of evincing his attention and regard by a present of ornaments and dresses for the infant.

11. I continued in regular attendance on his Excellency's person; and while encamped at Cawnpore he one evening invited me to accompany him on an excursion down the river. On our meeting he took one of my hands in both of his, and without any prefatory discourse informed me that Mr. Wilson had sent him various medicines at different times, none of which he had however taken. In the course of the evening he again expressed a lively interest in my welfare, and on our return to the shore requested my company to dinner.

12. The ensuing morning, during our ride, his Excellency observed, with his accustomed familiarity, that he did not approve of the howdah in which I was seated, and ordered his attendants immediately on their return to furnish me with a better, which I accordingly received. The Vizier on this day also applied to me for medicines, a requisition which was of course complied with.

13. From that period until the 2d November I experienced from his Excellency every mark of friendly and polite attention: but on the latter date I received a sum of money from his treasury, accompanied with a receipt specifying the same to be the amount of the salary due to me up to that day. This I considered as equivalent to a dismissal from his Excellency's service, and since that period all personal intercourse between the Vizier and myself has necessarily ceased.

14. Having thus, to the best of my recollection, furnished a succinct account of all my communications with his Excellency since his accession to the musnud, it only remains for me to state, that prior to that event, and during the whole period of my employment in the service of his father, I was on terms of the most confidential intercourse with the present Vizier; that I attended him throughout many dangerous illnesses both by day and night, administered medicines to him repeatedly with my own hands, and received innumerable assurances of the utmost gratitude for my attention.

15. From whence the sudden alteration in his Excellency's opinion, as indicated by his conduct of the 2d of November, arose, it is not my province to determine; nor shall I attempt to draw the slightest inference from the foregoing statement, either with a view to reconcile his Excellency's late treatment of me with his former profession, or to inculcate any of the parties whose names have been incidentally mentioned.

16. I am conscious of having fulfilled, to the utmost of my ability, the duties of the situation to which I was appointed by the Government five years ago, and I throw myself upon the candour and justice of the Governor-General to determine how far the circumstances I have here faithfully detailed for his Lordship's information tend to acquit or to convict me of the charges involved by the Vizier's communication.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th November 1814.

(Signed) J. LAW,
Surgeon.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Mr. Law.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

My dear Baillie :

If the conversation that passed between us this morning conveyed the sentiments of the Nawaub, it is evident he no longer wishes for my services ; for it is not very likely that Government will allow his Excellency two full surgeons from the establishment, one as his personal surgeon, the other to attend his household. I therefore feel that what passed between us was a delicate hint for me to retire, which I am afraid I must do, being the only line of conduct which I can adopt to preserve my reputation in the service, as well as to save me many mortifications hereafter.

Your's sincerely,

(Signed) J. LAW.

Lucknow,
11th August 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

To Mr. Surgeon Law.

My dear Law :

The explanation which I conveyed to you this morning was communicated with a view to your satisfaction, by the express desire of his Excellency the Vizier, who entertains the most friendly regard for you, and wishes to retain you in his service on the same footing exactly as you were in his father's, with the single exception which I stated, Your conjecture regarding the views of Government is in my opinion premature. No additional drain from the Company's medical establishment is intended by the arrangement proposed, and my friendship for you would induce me to regret very much your persisting in the view which you have taken of the nature and object of the communication which I made to you this morning by his Excellency the Vizier's desire.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.

Residency,
11th August 1814.

Letter from
Mr. De L'Etang.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir :

In answer to the letter with which you have this day honoured me, and desired I would answer to a copy of the substances of communications made to his Lordship by his Excellency the Vizier :

I do declare, on my word of honour and that of a gentleman, that I have never interfered in any of the affairs of the Government of Oude : that I have no subjects of charge or complaint against Major Baillie ; on the contrary, remember with gratitude the interest he has evinced towards me on a former occasion, and the kind reception I have experienced from him on my return to Lucknow the 30th September last : that I have not been a party at the consultations of Messrs. Law, Clarke, and Captain McLeod, otherwise than on matters most insignificant, neither having respect to politics, to Major Baillie, or disrespectful to his Excellency the Vizier.

I confess that I have expressed to my friends the disquietude and grief I experienced that his Excellency, since my arrival, had not entrusted me in the exercise of the situation he has honoured me with (superintendent and veterinary surgeon of his stud) ; though in a report I had the honour to submit to his consideration I had stated the advantage he might expect and derive were his stud judiciously managed : and I hope that neither what I have expressed to my friends, nor my report to his Excellency, will have proved disrespectful.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. De L'ETANG.

Lucknow,
8th November 1814.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Lucknow Residency, 9th November 1814.

I have perused all the papers delivered to me by Mr. Adam with as much attention as the time would admit.

The only documents (Nos. 3 and 4) on which it could have been necessary for me to comment, having been voluntarily withdrawn by his Excellency the Vizier, and the contents of them most solemnly disavowed within a few hours after their transmission to the Governor-General, the necessity of a refutation has

has been superseded: yet I owe it to myself, and to justice and truth, to declare, and to express my readiness to confirm the declaration on oath, that they form a tissue of the most glaring falsehoods and absurdities, and that I do not, in my conscience, suspect the Vizier of having ever for a moment entertained the sentiments, far less of having fabricated the assertions that are conveyed by them. His own retraction of those assertions, in the form of a letter to my address, dated the 1st instant, is translated and submitted with these remarks.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

ber 3. On the day of my } When the late Vizier's body was removed to the river for
decease, neither the Re- } the purpose of ablution, I proposed to his Excellency and
or any of the English gen- } to all the natives around him our going in a body to the
attended the funeral, &c. &c. } funeral. His Excellency and his courtiers observed that it
was unnecessary and improper for him to go, and that my quitting him for a
moment at that time was improper and dangerous. I then proposed to Colonel
D'Auvergne, to whom I refer, that he and the other officers should attend.
Colonel D'Auvergne declined, on account of the extreme heat of the weather;
but many of his officers, I believe, and certainly my brother and assistant, with
Lieutenant Fortune, attended by my particular desire.

ie time of my late father } On this question it must be sufficient to refer to the
ident asked for a sunnud, } repeated and positive orders of Government in favour of
&c. } Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, who has now no more than
what Lord Minto recommended to be given to him as his just right, and on whom
the present Vizier was prevented, by my remonstrance, from conferring a large
additional allowance in money.

Resident several times ap- } I never conveyed a wish or request of a personal nature:
my late father, &c. &c. } to the late Vizier in my life. His Excellency often
suggested an improvement of the guard-room and other buildings about
the Residency, which I disapproved, and the late alterations and improve-
ments were the spontaneous desire of the present Vizier, conveyed in my
presence to his Excellency's Darogha of buildings. The present road is
well known to be much shorter and more convenient than the former for
all the people of the town, and particularly for his Excellency's courtiers. The
conduct of my servants, or of people belonging to me, as referred to at the
close of this article, is totally unknown to me, and I have reason to consider
the charge as utterly groundless.

my father's death the Re- } I certainly did station guards for the security of his
stationed guards, &c. &c. } Excellency's person and the public property of the State,
immediately on the death of his father. (See my first despatch to the
Governor-General.) I have repeatedly since asked leave to withdraw the
whole of the guard, and his Excellency has constantly begged that they should
continue.

r my father's death the Re- } I went to the outer gates of the houses of most of the late
proceeded to the dwelling- } Vizier's widows, by the present Vizier's express desire, and
of Gomanee Khanum, &c. &c. } attended by several of his eunuchs, to condole with the
ladies of the muhl, and assure them of his Excellency's protection: to this
lady's gate among the rest. But what remains of this article is a gross false-
hood. The allowance granted to this lady was assigned by his Excellency,
the present Vizier, in lieu of other advantages possessed in her husband's
lifetime; and it was announced by his Excellency to me, in common with
many other domestic arrangements, regarding which he was then in the
habit of earnestly soliciting my advice.

female servants of her late } This allowance was granted most willingly and cheer-
ness the Begum Shums-oon- } fully, and is much under the rate assigned by her Highness
&c. &c. &c. } the Begum's will or testamentary letter addressed to the
Governor-General.

Resident bringing with him } Since the day of his Excellency's accession, and then only
as, &c. &c. &c. } owing to the confusion unavoidable on such an occasion,
no one has ever presumed to sit down in his Excellency's presence while
I was there, except those entitled to this distinction during his father's
lifetime.

The Resident, from motives of
regard for Cāsīm Alee Khan, &c.
&c. &c.

} Vide Instructions of Government, positive and repeated.
His Excellency expressed a desire to do much more for this
person than I could authorize. He has probably repented
of his justice to Cāsīm Alee Khan, as well as of his liberality to the sons of
Mirza Jāfer. The former was suggested certainly by me, and most readily
agreed to : the latter was in opposition to my repeated and earnest advice, as shall
be stated more fully in its proper place.

Whosoever of my servants, &c. &c. &c. This seems unworthy of notice. His Excellency's servants
and dependants come to me only when he sends them.

The superintendence of the la-
dies of the muhls, &c. &c. &c

} A voluntary concession of his Excellency to his grand-
mother, the Bhow Begum, who addressed a letter to him on
the subject. Her Highness, however, had the superintendence of those muhls
originally, and was deprived of it unjustly by the late Vizier.

The Resident placed over me the
sons of Mirza Jāfer, &c. &c. &c.

} His Excellency, on the morning of his accession, insisted,
before many witnesses, on my giving up to him my Dewan,
Mirza Hajee, whom it appears that he had promised while heir apparent
to advance to the highest possible rank and honours in the event of his
ascending the musnud. I yielded to the Nawab's most earnest entreaty,
expressing my fear, at the same time, that his Excellency's kindness would
spoil a young man to whom I was partial, and who had served me faithfully
and zealously for a period of eleven years. The employment of the younger
brothers was totally unknown to me till his Excellency announced it; and the
salaries given to them, as well as to their elder brother, if indeed they enjoy what
is stated, are so unreasonable, that I could never have authorized them if the
question had been referred to my advice. His Excellency once, I recollect,
proposed to assign an allowance of 1,000 rupees per mensem to each of those
young men, and I remonstrated against this allowance, declaring that half the
sum was in my mind more than sufficient; and that although I could never
presume to control his Excellency's liberality to his servants, yet as those
young men were supposed to be connected with me, I thought it my duty to
state my sentiments regarding them without reserve. On another occasion I
recollect a proposal, on the part of the Vizier, to appoint Mirza Mohsen,
the fourth son of Mirza Jāfer, to the office of Darogha of the adawlut, and I
objected to the measure in such terms as must have convinced his Excellency
of my disinclination to encourage any liberality on his part, to persons con-
nected, or supposed to be connected with myself. For the truth of this state-
ment, and indeed of all the foregoing remarks, I should have no hesitation in
referring to his Excellency's candour and veracity, if questioned in my pre-
sence, and free from the influence of those evil counsellors who induced him
to prefer such charges.

The style in which the retinue
of the Resident, &c. &c. &c.

} I do not understand the commencement of this article :
but with regard to the affray on the road, occasioned by a
gross insult and violence on the part of his Excellency's troopers, one of whom
attempted to destroy Lieutenant Fortune, the commander of my escort, I
could wish, if it be thought necessary, to refer to that gentleman's testimony
on oath. The Vizier, on hearing the circumstances, came suddenly to my
tent to apologize for the conduct of his servants, offering to dismiss the whole
corps from his service if I required it.

From the day of my ascending
the musnud, &c. &c. &c.

} My proceedings with regard to the reform are reported
in detail by my despatches to the Government. My daily
attendance on the Vizier, while it lasted, was occasioned solely by his own
earnest and repeated desire. His acquiescence in all my suggestions was
voluntary, prompt, and apparently cordial. My recommendation of a very
few Ameens to him was offered with extraordinary reluctance, in compliance
with his earnest request; and of all the officers employed since his accession,
no more than three or four are even personally known to me. The note which
his Excellency addressed to me regarding Ameens, after he had been induced
by his evil counsellors to oppose the progress of reform, and my answer to that
note, shall be translated and submitted to the Government.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

No. 4. *Detail of recent Occurrences and necessary Requests.*

Bengal Politic
Consultations
7 Mar. 1815.

Detail
of Occurrences &
Requests.

- Article 1st. The golaub baree } A voluntary concession, as a mark of respect for his
other places at Fyzabad. } grandmother, in compliance with my suggestion certainly,
but that compliance most ready and cheerful. See the letters which passed on
the subject between her Highness the Begum and his Excellency.
1. Augmentation to Cāsim } Answered already. It is not an augmentation, but the
Khan. } restoration of part of an allowance guaranteed by our
Government, which had long been unjustly withholden.
1. Giving the place called } A house and garden in ruins, believed to form a part of
mut. } the Bhow Begum's jagier, which she gave to her nephew,
Cāsim Alee Khan, two years ago.
- th. The release of the son of } This person is not released, but certainly ought to be so
hesher Naut. } without any delay. See repeated instructions from Govern-
ment, and Colonel Scott's letter to Mr. Edmonstone dated 8th May 1803.
- th. Wounding the trooper. Answered already.
- th. Stopping the nobut. This circumstance was explained in person to the
Governor-General and to Mr. Adam. The drum had never been placed over
the gateway, far less beaten there, during the life-time of the late Vizier; and
I certainly did not expect, though I should never have objected to, the present
Vizier's beating it, while I was Resident at his court and resided in my present
habitation.
- th. Stopping up the high road } Already explained to be the voluntary act of the
building a gate, &c. &c. &c. } Vizier, and intended, as I believe, to improve the appear-
ance of and entrance into his palace.
- 9th. Intruding upon me, and } Inaccurate, as already stated, and as his Excellency
ing expectations to the sons } must acknowledge if he be asked the question in my
Mirza Jāfer. } presence.
- 9th. Allowance to the depen- } Fully explained in my remarks on No. 3.
nts of the Begum, Shums-oon-
sd.
- 10th. Sending Ameens from } I do not believe that a single relation of Mirza Jāfer,
among the relations of Mirza Jāfer. } except his sons, can be found in the service of the Vizier,
employed since the death of his father. My observation
on the article in No. 3, having reference to the progress of reform, applies to
this article equally.
- 11th Removal of the guards } Would have taken place long ago, if his Excellency
request). } would have permitted the removal, which I repeatedly
suggested.
- 12th, 13th, 14th, and the con- } Do not appear to require any observation on my part-
cluding paragraphs of this paper. } And having thus refuted, by a candid explanation of the
circumstances, which I am ready to attest upon oath, every article of the
Vizier's retracted accusations, I have only to express my regret that his Excel-
lency should have ever been induced to give even a momentary sanction to
charges which he knew to be so false and absurd.

The fabrication of those charges I am inclined to ascribe to Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, supported and assisted, no doubt, by those English *gentlemen* in the Vizier's service, whom his Excellency has ultimately accused as the instigators and inventors of the charges, and whose participation, in any degree, in this intrigue, is a matter of much greater and more lasting concern to me, than any extent of injury which I could have sustained from the result of it, even if the Vizier's sudden and most natural remorse had not induced him to recall and disavow the whole matter of his accusation.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.
From

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from the Vizier.

From his Excellency the Vizier. (Received the 1st November 1814.)

Mr. Clarke and Captain McLeod have been for some time past in the habit of saying to me, that a paper of faults to be imputed to you should be prepared and given in to the Governor-General : but I never would consent to this suggestion. At length, yesterday, after the departure of Mr. Ricketts, they brought me a paper, and stated to me deceitfully that the Governor-General was displeased with you, and desirous of receiving from me a communication which might attach blame to you ; consequently, that the giving in of such a paper would be pleasing and satisfactory to his Lordship.

I being quite unaware of the deceitful and insidious views of those gentlemen, gave the paper in question to Lord Moira. Yet God is my witness, that my heart has never felt, and does not now entertain the least dissatisfaction with you, and that the friendship and unity subsisting between us have not suffered the smallest diminution or change.

Be not, therefore, grieved or displeased with my conduct ; because I have not been the origin of this matter myself, but on the contrary, it has proceeded alone from the deceit and incantations of those gentlemen. Mr. Clarke has another paper of the same description with those, and I know not whether he has given this also to Lord Moira or not.

As these gentlemen have entered into such designs as those described, I have dismissed them both from my service, and with them Dr. Law and Mr. De L'Etang, who were also their associates in this affair ; because the continuance in my service of such persons as interrupt the friendship between you and me is improper on every account.

What more can be written ?

A true translation :

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Captain McLeod's
Statement.

Captain McLeod's Statement.

His Excellency the Governor-General having directed me to detail in writing all particulars relating to certain communications which have been made by me from time to time, regarding the dissatisfaction of his Highness the late Nawaub Vizier, and that of his Highness the present Nawaub Vizier, with Major Baillie resident at Lucknow, from the commencement to the present time, I hereby state as follows, and declare my readiness to confirm the same on oath, if required so to do.

I never had any personal communication with the late Nawaub, Saadut Alee Khan, on any matters touching his situation with the Resident, or connected with the affairs of his Government, until the day on which I proposed taking leave of him preparatory to embarking for Calcutta early in the month of October 1818. On that occasion he took me aside with tears in his eyes, and apparently in the deepest distress, he said, " Captain McLeod, although I never opened my
" mind to you, you must be aware, from report, how degraded my situation
" is, and always has been, from the interference of Major Baillie in every
" branch and department of my Government. I believe you to be my well-
" wisher, and entreat of you to represent to Lord Moira that I am, under present
" circumstances, the most wretched being on the face of the earth, and that
" I wish death would put an end to my miseries. You may state to his
" Lordship from me, that I conceive Major Baillie is acting contrary to the
" instructions of his Government, in thus trampling on my authority ; that
" he is in the habit of supporting and holding out every encouragement to all
" persons who come under my displeasure from disobedience, arrears of
" revenue, and various other causes ; that I have no regular channel of
" communicating my grievances to his Lordship but through this gentleman,
" whose interest it would be to withhold the communication ; and that not
" being fully aware of the views of the British Government, I am afraid of
" forcibly

“ forcibly opposing the Resident’s measures, lest I might thereby give offence to that Government to which I owe every thing; and whose wishes it is my interest and inclination ever to conform to. You may also state to his Lordship, that I do not think so ill of Major Baillie on this subject as of his principal adviser, Mirza Jāfer, and other natives about him, to whom I attribute all the harshness I constantly experience. I entreat of you most earnestly to do what you can for me in this business, and I hope for much from your interposition in my favour.” His Highness said a great deal more, which I cannot immediately recollect. Finding it impossible to resist this appeal to my feelings, I replied as follows: “ That his Highness did me but justice in believing that I wished him well, and that it would be gratifying to me to be of service to him. That I could not promise to state his sentiments to Lord Moira, as it would be presumption in me to address the Governor-General, in the first instance, on such a subject, even if I had the honour of being personally known to his Lordship, which was not the case; but that if his Lordship gave me an opportunity, I should endeavour, with caution, to bring the matter under his observation. On my return from Calcutta I stated to his late Highness that I had ascertained, through satisfactory sources, what his Lordship’s sentiments in regard to the princes of the country were; and from those I ventured to assure him with confidence, that they held out every prospect of his wishes being accomplished, on his stating them to his Lordship without reserve. That I understood it was his Lordship’s intention to proceed from Calcutta to Lucknow on the commencement of the rainy season, and that his Lordship’s presence here would afford him a good opportunity.” His Highness told me, I believe that same day, that my information was strongly supported and confirmed by some very friendly communications received from his Lordship through the Resident, and further by his Lordship’s abolition of a most obnoxious measure which had been sanctioned by the late Government and partly acted upon. The measure alluded to I understood to be the appointment of commissioners (Ameens) to establish the rates for the collection of revenue in the several districts. After this I had little or no communication with the late Vizier on public matters of any description, further than related to his Lordship’s approach and his anxiety for his arrival.

Bengal Political
Correspondence
7 Mar. 1815
—
Captain McLeod’s
Statement

Soon after the death of the late Nawaub, his present Highness having always evinced a considerable degree of regard and consideration by his manner towards me, told me that he knew I was his father’s well-wisher, and that I had interested myself in his case: that he hoped I would observe the same friendship towards him, in which case he would look forward to relief from his degraded situation.

His Highness then, from time to time, as opportunities offered, either in the carriage, of an evening, or in a private room, detailed to me his grievances; the general purport of which were, that Major Baillie had availed himself of peculiar circumstances to assume the sole authority in his country by interfering in all matters, and although business was conducted in the name of the Vizier, yet his power was merely nominal: that he had gained over to his views, by promises or otherwise, almost all the public servants of the State as well as the higher classes of his private servants: that he (the Vizier) thus felt he had scarcely a native officer on whose fidelity he could rely: that he was daily insulted by acts of disrespect and disobedience by his own servants, under the influence of Major Baillie, and that he could not punish or remove them because they were supported by him.

That from the moment of his Highness’s accession to the musnud, Major Baillie had placed the sons of Mirza Jāfer about his person as spies and a check on his conduct: that those people were detestable to him, as was their father, whom he said the Resident wished to appoint Minister. That Major Baillie expressed his desire that he should take his medicine, when he required any, from Doctor Wilson, and said that if he took any from Doctor Law, he (Doctor Law) would kill him, from his ignorance of the duties of his profession: that to all this he felt himself compelled reluctantly to agree for the present.

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His

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.
—
Captain McLeod's
Statement.

His Highness repeatedly told me, that Mr. Wilson attended him contrary to his wishes; that he disliked Mr. Wilson; that he had always been partial to Mr. Law, was yet attached to him, and wished him, to the exclusion of all others, to be his personal physician. My compassion being excited by the wretched state of mind in which I saw him, I was induced to listen to these complaints, tending to accuse the Resident of an intolerable assumption of his authority, in the shape of interference, not only in the higher offices of the State, but descending to the more trifling and interior arrangements of his household, and at length complied with his earnest and repeated solicitations, that I would, if opportunity offered, communicate to Lord Moira the abject state to which he was reduced, by the unbounded and uncontrolled influence of Major Baillie. On one of these private conversations with the Nawaub, I asked him if he had ever consulted Mr. Clarke on all these points. He said that he had not, but that he thought Mr. Clarke a steady, intelligent, and discreet man, and that he should like to communicate with him. I strongly urged him to do so, as I thought that Mr. Clarke, from his long residence here, his knowledge of the language and general intercourse with the natives, could be of much more service to him than I could; that I knew him to have been a well-wisher to his father and much in his confidence. He said that he should be most happy to have Mr. Clarke's opinions, and begged I would tell him to give him (the Vizier) an opportunity of speaking to him the first time he came. Much cause have I now, and most sincerely do I regret, that I should have thus involved my friend in a cause which, from the strange inconsistencies in the Nawaub's communications, has proved so embarrassing to all parties. I now, however, most solemnly declare, that all we admitted the propriety of his Highness's doing, was, to state to Lord Moira what he (the Vizier) had so repeatedly urged to us, provided he was decidedly of that opinion, that such was the influence which Major Baillie and his native advisers had obtained throughout the country, and such was the use they made of it, that he was thoroughly convinced his authority and independence never could be established whilst they continued in office, and that those persons above alluded to had been placed by Major Baillie about his person contrary to his wishes. We always most strongly advised his Highness not to bring forward any complaints of a more serious nature against Major Baillie, and that if he persisted in doing so we should decline hearing further on the subject.

His Highness had repeatedly stated various articles of complaint against Major Baillie to Mr. Clarke and myself, which it has never been our intention or wish to disclose. Previously, I believe, to Mr. Clarke having been spoken to on these matters, the Nawaub told me that he was then causing a book to be written, containing what he termed (muckoozāt) wishes in regard to the conduct and management of his country, which he was desirous of presenting to Lord Moira on his arrival, and said that he wished to obtain my opinion on it. He accordingly, one morning, produced a roll of paper in presence of Agha Meer and myself only, containing seven or eight articles numbered; and added, that this was not the whole, but that I should have the continuation hereafter. He put this paper into the hands of Agha Meer to read to me, but he read it in so loud a tone of voice that I immediately stopt him, and said that if he would allow me to take it home I would read it carefully and give him my opinion. The paper was accordingly given to me.

A few days after Agha Meer called at my house, and delivered to me a few more of the articles for the said book for my perusal. Before I thought of returning these papers, I think it was, that Mr. Clarke was spoken to, and consulted by the Vizier on his situation; and I was accordingly desired by his Highness to give them to Mr. Clarke, in order that he might have his opinion on them also; I did so. I cannot now recollect whether it was Mr. Clarke or myself that returned them to the Vizier, but I think Mr. Clarke told me that Agha Meer had come to him for them by the Vizier's desire. Those articles were afterwards drawn up on large English paper. He delivered it into my hands and requested that after perusal I would hand it to Mr. Clarke. We both gave our opinion to his Highness on the paper as a loose vague document, which it would be difficult for his Lordship to comprehend the object of; but as he seemed desirous of adhering to it, we admitted that if it did no good it would

would do no harm. He then requested Mr. Clarke to make a copy of this document on English letter paper, saying that as he was surrounded by Major Baillie's people, and was so constantly watched by them, he had scarcely any man of his own on whom he could place confidence sufficient, and his time being otherwise much occupied he could not conveniently get it copied himself.

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Captain McLeod's
Statement.

Mr. Clarke accordingly had this paper copied, as he told me, in his presence, by his own Mootusuddie, and delivered it to his Highness on the day of our arrival on the banks of the Ganges; and we have understood from his Highness that this same paper was delivered by him to his Lordship on the morning his Lordship returned his visit in camp. Besides the above papers, his Highness put two others into my hands, which I also, by his desire, delivered to Mr. Clarke, containing such matter as it was contrary to our wishes should be brought forward, and we accordingly prevented his doing so; at least we know not whether any such paper has been presented.

After his Lordship and suite had departed from camp on the occasion of the return visit above alluded to, his Highness detained Mr. Clarke and myself. We retired to another tent with his Highness; Agha Meer, the only person present besides. He (the Vizier) appeared greatly dejected and vexed, accused me of not having paved the way for his intended communication to Lord Moira, and stated that, to his great surprise and mortification, Lord Moira had recommended Major Baillie to him in the most particular manner, expressed his satisfaction at finding he was so much pleased with Major Baillie, and that he made himself so useful to his Highness. To this he said he made no reply, but winked to Mr. Ricketts, who seeming to understand his meaning, returned the nod. I told his Highness that it was not surprising he should find Lord Moira unacquainted with the real state of the case in the first instance; but that if he wished to persevere in making his wishes known to his Lordship, I was confident they would be attended to, from what I had heard of his Lordship's character and general principles of policy and justice. He accordingly told us that he would make known his wishes to his Lordship verbally, and would request a conference for that purpose, on the day in which he was invited to dine with his Lordship. The gentlemen of his Highness's family (Mr. Clarke and myself included) attended the Vizier that evening at an early hour, to accompany him to his Lordship. He then assured Mr. Clarke and me that he was determined to make his wishes (relative to Major Baillie's removal) known to Lord Moira that evening verbally. Immediately after this declaration, Major Baillie came in. He appeared, I thought, much agitated, and after sitting for some time with us in public, took his Highness away into another tent; and some delay having occurred in the arrival of those gentlemen, who were sent by his Lordship to escort his Highness to dinner, they were closeted, I imagine, nearly an hour. We learnt afterwards that although the conference took place that evening, his Highness did not notice this subject of his dissatisfaction to Lord Moira, and we concluded that he had been intimidated by Major Baillie. After this Mr. Clarke and myself were for a length of time never admitted to any private conversation with the Vizier: Mirza Jāfer's sons were more watchful than ever. Captain Gilbert and Captain McRae having come to breakfast with the Vizier one morning lately, Captain Gilbert requested to speak with his Highness privately. His Highness took him to a private room accordingly, and Mr. Clarke was soon afterwards summoned to attend them. Captain McRae and myself remained at the breakfast-table. After these gentlemen had gone, the Nawaub seemed in high spirits, took Mr. Clarke and myself into the same private room, and talked slightly of the subject of his conversation with Captain Gilbert. I then taxed his Highness with treating all the gentlemen of his family with unkindness and inattention of late, and in presence of Mr. Clarke he seized my hands, and said, "for God's sake, do not think any thing of this just now: you know I am not acting from my own inclination; and pray say the same from me to Mr. Law and Mr. De L'Etang."

On the day preceding the tiger fight, I had learned that his Highness had given orders at all the gates of his palace that none of us should be admitted without

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Captain McLeod's
Statement.

without a special order. I however went that morning to put the matter to the test. I was not obstructed, nor was Mr. De L'Etang who accompanied me; but I learnt there, from good authority, that the order had been given, but on that day could not be acted on. I took an opportunity of going up to the Vizier, and of asking him whether he had given such orders: his reply was, with a kind shake of the hand, "I will tell you hereafter;" and hurried away from me.

Since then a Choubdar has been sent to me, to desire that I would send back the elephants which his Highness had allowed for my use. The day before yesterday one of Mirza Jāfer's sons came to me with his Highness's compliments, to signify that he desired I would consider myself no longer in his service. In reply to this I desired this person to offer my respectful compliments to the Vizier, and to say that as I had been appointed to his service by the Governor-General in Council, I could not receive a verbal message of that nature, and suggested that the communication should be made in writing through the Resident. Since that time I have heard nothing more on the subject. I ought further to add, that Mr. Clarke and myself having heard of a message sent by his Highness to the Governor-General, through Agha Meer, contradicting all that he had yet said, and charging us, or some of us, with having induced him to act as he had done, we went at the usual hour of breakfast, and determined, if possible, to question him on this subject. We were in some degree opposed in our progress up stairs, but went on and found his Highness seated near the landing-place. He was much agitated at seeing us, but desired us to sit down. Mr. Clarke then asked him if he had sent such a message to Lord Moira; and he denied to us both, in the most positive terms, that he had done so. Mr. Adam and Mr. Swinton then arrived. We were desired to go away, and in our way met Major Baillie going there, where we subsequently heard he had breakfasted.

(Signed) D. McLEOD,
Captain, Engineers.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

A cursory perusal of the second statement of Captain McLeod, which Mr. Adam has this instant put into my hands, suggested to me a number of observations which I could wish to submit to the Government at a period of greater leisure. For the present, I shall content myself with remarking on one most extraordinary insinuation at the bottom of the seventh page of the statement, which requires an immediate explanation. It is, that of my having appeared to Captain McLeod, as he thought, to be agitated on the night of the Vizier's first visit to the Governor-General at Cawnpore, and my having been closeted with his Excellency on that occasion, for the purpose, as Captain McLeod has been pleased to infer, of intimidating his Excellency from preferring a complaint to Lord Moira. To this extraordinary insinuation I shall answer in a few words; and I am ready to depose upon oath, that the possibility of a complaint against me by the present Vizier, and of an intrigue against the Government and me by Captain McLeod, were equally distant from my mind, and had never entered into my contemplation till the evening of the 1st of November at Lucknow, where I received the Vizier's letter retracting the accusations, and charging Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke as the authors of them. My visit to his Excellency, and my conference with him on the occasion to which Captain McLeod has alluded, were solely and exclusively to negotiate the loan of a crore of rupees for the Honourable Company, under the orders of the Governor-General, and I am ready to make oath, to the best of my recollection and belief, that the above was the only topic of our conversation.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Camp,
11th November 1814.

To

To Captain McLeod, of the Engineers.

Sir:

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed by the Governor-General to impart to you that the Nawaub Vizier has notified to his Lordship the circumstances of his Excellency's having dismissed you, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Law, and Mr. De L'Etang from his service.

2. As the part which the British Government had in your several appointments was no more than simply an acquiescence in the Nawaub Vizier's temporarily employing each of you, the Governor-General would, in any ordinary case, have only had to cause his receipt of the intimation to be communicated to you. His Lordship, however, cannot in justice leave the characters of individuals under British protection liable to that sort of misconstruction, to which he sees your's may be exposed from recent occurrences.

3. Attaching perfect faith to your respective statements, which collateral information forcibly confirms, his Lordship desires me to signify to you, and through you to the other gentlemen above mentioned, that you stand in his judgment wholly free from the imputation of any unworthy practices.

4. Your own candour has made an acknowledgment which fixes upon you personally no inconsiderable degree of blame in another respect. You confess that, when urged by the Nawaub Vizier's repeated complaints, you agreed with his Excellency in regarding the removal of Major Baillie as the only means of establishing his own legitimate authority in his dominions.

5. The assenting to any such suggestion, nay, even the mere discussing such a question with the Nawaub Vizier, is a culpable infraction of those orders of Government by which all its servants (the Resident excepted) are strictly forbidden from holding political conversation with any Native Prince.

6. Great allowance is made by his Lordship for the difficulty, when your duties called you into attendance on the Nawaub Vizier, of avoiding to listen, through pure urbanity, when complaints were lightly and incidentally thrown out at first; and he further feels, that apparent sympathy imperceptibly grows into an implication of concurrence, calculated to betray you into an inconsiderate expression of corresponding sentiment.

7. His Lordship also comprehends the possibility of your having erroneously satisfied yourself, that in counselling the Nawaub Vizier to lay his grievances before the Governor-General (a procedure perfectly regular and licit for you), it was equally lawful for you to strengthen the advice by your opinion of the case to be submitted; although such a representation from the Nawaub Vizier ought to be the exposition of his own feelings alone, untinctured by your notions on the subject.

8. Admitted in extenuation as these points are, his Lordship has still to hold your conduct, in the particular alluded to, as reprehensible; and his Lordship trusts that the sense which he must believe you will yourself, on reflection, entertain of this error, will secure you against a similar deviation on any future occasion.

9. At your early convenience you will proceed either to Cawnpore or to Agra, as may best suit yourself, there to wait the instructions of the Commander-in-Chief.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To

Bengal Political
Consultations,
7 Mar. 1815.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. H. Clarke, Esq.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant.
2. The judgment of the Governor-General on the proceeding, to which my letter of the 8th instant refers, has been signified to Captain McLeod, who has been directed to communicate it to you.
3. His Excellency the Vizier having dispensed with your further services, I am directed to convey to you the desire of the Governor-General that you will withdraw from the territory of Oude as soon as you shall have settled those commercial concerns which his Lordship understood from Major Baillie might take some short time to arrange.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Law, Esq.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant.
2. The judgment of the Governor-General on the proceeding to which my letter of the 8th instant refers has been signified to Captain McLeod, who has been directed to communicate it to you.
3. His Excellency the Vizier having dispensed with your further services, I am directed to convey to you the desire of the Governor-General that you will withdraw from the territory of Oude at your earliest convenience, reporting yourself to head-quarters.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To M. A. De L'Etang.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant.
2. The judgment of the Governor-General on the proceeding, to which my letter of the 8th instant refers, has been signified to Captain McLeod, who has been directed to communicate it to you.
3. His Excellency the Vizier having dispensed with your further services, I am directed to convey to you the desire of the Governor-General that you will withdraw from the territory of Oude at your convenience.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

1. I am directed to transmit to you the enclosed copies of letters which have this day been addressed to Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Law, and Mr. A. De L'Etang.
2. Although the Governor-General has deemed it proper to direct those gentlemen to depart from the territory of Oude, his Lordship would regret the occurrence of any circumstance which might render the short remaining period of their residence at Lucknow unpleasant to their feelings, or degrading to the British character in their persons. It is, therefore, his Lordship's desire, that you

you will remonstrate with the Vizier against any measures of that tendency which his Excellency may take, and that you will afford your protection to their person and property.

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7 Mar. 1815.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 9th November 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

As your Lordship manifests towards me parental kindness and regard, and as I consider my happiness and welfare solely to depend on your gracious favour and support, I have committed several requests to writing, and now transmit the paper enclosed, with my seal affixed to it, in the hope that your Lordship will be kindly pleased to signify your compliance with those requests by setting your hand and seal to it, and to favour me with it before your departure from Lucknow. Your doing so will be a source to me of real confidence and satisfaction.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Translation of a Paper enclosed in the foregoing Letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, received 9th November 1814.

Praise be to the Almighty for his exceeding favour, that by the influence of my propitious stars, the illustrious nobleman and exalted ruler, who established me on the hereditary musnud of the Vezārut, has at so early and auspicious a period adorned this quarter with his presence. Deeming it proper, therefore, that several requests should be honoured with the special signature of that illustrious nobleman and ruler, I now commit to paper the seven requests specified below.

First. Whatever portion of territory was held by my late father until the hour of his decease, and by your Lordship's placing me on the musnud has descended as an inheritance to me, let my power and authority be exercised over it as in the time of my father, and let not a purgunnah or a village thereof, on any occasion or by any change, be separated from my rule, but let it be confirmed to me and to my posterity to the latest generation.

Second. The late Governor-General the Earl of Minto proposed, as it appears, a plan to my father for the administration of his country; but my father, notwithstanding the urgent and repeated instances of his Lordship on this subject, never introduced it during his life. In consideration of the urgent representations of the late Governor-General, and of the promise of my deceased father to carry the plan into effect in his lifetime, I have introduced it with the concurrence of Major Baillie, and have deputed Ameens into the districts; my object being to make an experiment of the plan after this manner, that such of the Ameens as may be disqualified by inexperience, incapacity, or unworthiness, should be replaced by others, when tuhseeldarce sunnuds should be given, and with the concurrence of Major Baillie, trial of the system be made until the expiration of the current year. If the plan in question shall be productive of comfort and relief to the Ryots and of augmented revenue to the State, and shall facilitate the collection of the rents and promote the security and happiness of the people and the reputation of the Government, it will be permanently adopted and established; otherwise, whatever other plan may be calculated to secure those objects will be introduced.

Third. Now that the introduction of the system of reform, as proposed by the late Governor-General, has been agreed on, I have divided the whole of the country into six Zillahs. It has, therefore, become necessary that in each Zillah a Zillahdar, the same as a collector, should be established, with such state and military force as may impress all the Zemindars of the purgunnahs in his Zillah with due respect and awe, and that, in the event of any refractoriness on their

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Letter
from the Vizier.

their part, he may have the means, with such force, to punish and repress it, that thus the necessity may be obviated of giving constant trouble to the British troops by requiring their presence in the several purgunnahs. If the Zillahdar shall conceive himself to be unable with his force to accomplish his object, he will then of necessity require the aid of the British troops. Under this arrangement, therefore, let permission be granted for the entertainment in each Zillah of a force sufficient for maintaining good order and punishing the refractory.

Fourth. With respect to the administration of justice, it has been determined that in each division or Zillah a person learned in the law, with the requisite establishment of Omlah (officers), shall be attached to the Zillahdar, for the purpose of settling the disputes of the Zillah, agreeably to the ordinances of the holy law. If one of the litigants shall have a doubt (regarding the justice of the decision), an appeal will lie to the court of adawlut at Lucknow; and if such party shall still have a doubt, he may refer his case to two doctors of approved experience in the law, who shall be attached to the Presence, and who shall constitute the court of sudder appeal.

Fifth. If any one of my relations, dependants, servants, or subjects, shall go to your Lordship or to Calcutta to complain, any little attention or regard to the subject of his complaint will be the cause of impairing my dignity and consequence, and will excite others to follow the same course, and be a source of trouble to your Lordship, I hope that, immediately on their being heard, this answer will be given to them, that they must go and refer their complaints to their own Sovereign. In the event of their persevering and being urgent, let them be turned away with a sharp reprimand, that thus my authority and dignity may be upheld and the door be shut against evil, for three degrees of adawlut have been established here; and if, notwithstanding this, a person seeks to go from hence, it is a proof that his claim is an unjust one.

Sixth. Whereas charitable gifts and endowments bring blessings and prosperity upon a government, are acceptable in the sight of God and exalt our reputation among men, it is my intention that the subject of the rent-free lands, which were conferred during the time of my uncle the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and which, in consequence of some doubts, were resumed in the time of my father, shall be enquired into, and that such lands as shall appear proper to be released shall be restored. Nay, I propose to provide, on my own part, a suitable maintenance for the poor and destitute men of learning and piety, that being rendered easy in their circumstances they may occupy themselves in prayer for long life to me and the prosperity of my government. I have written this for your Lordship's information.

Seventh. My late uncle and my father went on hunting parties whenever they were so disposed. I propose, in this respect, to follow the custom of my ancestors; and I have now apprized your Lordship of this, that it may not be displeasing to your Lordship's mind: and, agreeably to custom, let the British troops on such occasions be under my orders.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Written the 12th November 1814.)

I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter, expressing your confidence in my friendship and personal regard for your Excellency, and enclosing a paper of propositions for my consideration and approval. (Vide letter received 9th November.)

I have now the pleasure to transmit to your Excellency, agreeably to your desire, the enclosed paper, containing my answers to your several propositions,
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authenticated by my seal and signature, and I confidently trust that these answers will prove entirely satisfactory to your Excellency's mind.

Believing me, &c.

A true copy :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

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Letter from
Governor-General.

The Vizier's Propositions.

First. Whatever portion of territory was held by my late father until the hour of his decease, and by your Lordship's placing me on the musnud, has descended as an inheritance to me : Let my power and authority be exercised over it, as in the time of my father ; and let not a purgunnah or a village, therefore, on any occasion or by any change, be separated from my rule, but let it be confirmed to me and to my posterity to the latest generation.

Second. The late Governor-General the Earl of Minto proposed, as it appears, a plan to my father for the administration of his country ; but my father, notwithstanding the urgent and repeated instances of his Lordship on this subject, never introduced it during his life. In consideration of the urgent representations of the late Governor-General, and of the promise of my deceased father to carry the plan into effect in his lifetime, I have introduced it with the concurrence of Major Baillie, and have deputed Ameens into the districts, my object being to make an experiment of the plan after this manner : that such of the Ameens as may be disqualified by inexperience, incapacity, or unworthiness, should be replaced by others, when tuhseeldarree sunnuds should be given, and with the concurrence of Major Baillie, trial of the system be made, until the expiration of the current year. If the plan in question shall be productive of comfort and relief to the Ryots and of augmented revenue to the State, and shall facilitate the collection of the rents and promote the security and happiness of the people and the reputation of the Government, it will be permanently adopted and established ; otherwise, whatever other plan may be calculated to secure those objects will be introduced.

Third.

The Governor-General's Answers.

I have no other view than the placing the Nawaub Vizier in that relative situation, with regard to the British Government, which clear and undeniable justice demands, and which, therefore, must be the wish of our nation. The effect of my procedure would undoubtedly be to give to his Excellency's Government character and efficiency in a degree which could not fail to satisfy all his Excellency's wishes on that head.

The success or failure of the plan of reform recommended by the British Government cannot be decided by the experience of a single year, the basis of that arrangement being a settlement for three years, founded on the result of the investigation by Ameens. I recommend to his Excellency either to pursue the plan already partially in progress with his consent, or to furnish me, with the least practicable delay, with one of his own, to be substituted for it with my concurrence. If the former shall be his Excellency's resolution, the Resident will be prepared to enter on the details of the arrangement with his Excellency and his Ministers without delay. If the latter, I request his Excellency to communicate to me his plan without loss of time, as the season is passing away. My earnest desire is, that an arrangement so essential to the best interests of the Nawaub Vizier's Government may be carried into effect with his Excellency's full concurrence, and according to the provisions of the treaty, that is to say, through his own officers. The British Government does not desire to interfere with his Excellency's free choice of his Ameens and other officers. It only reserves to itself the essential privilege of representing its objections to the employment of any person whom it may know to be unfitted, by want of talents or integrity, for the duty to be assigned to him. My purpose is, that the authority of his Excellency shall

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Letter.*

Third. Now that the introduction of the system of reform, as proposed by the late Governor-General, has been agreed on, I have divided the whole of the country into six Zillahs. It has therefore become necessary, that in each Zillah a Zillahdar, the same as a collector, should be established, with such state and military force as may impress all the Zemindars of the purgunnah in his Zillah with due respect and awe; and that, in the event of any refractoriness on their part, he may have the means, with such force, to punish and repress it, that thus the necessity may be obviated of giving constant trouble to the British troops, by requiring their presence in the several purgunnahs. If the Zillahdar shall conceive himself to be unable with his force to accomplish his object, he will then, of necessity, require the aid of the British troops. Under this arrangement, therefore, let permission be granted for the entertainment in each Zillah of a force sufficient for maintaining good order and punishing the refractory.

be exhibited as valid and substantial: therefore the mission of Ameens would appear the result of his Excellency's own judgment, and could never excite any misconstruction. The Nawaub Vizier has given me to understand in general terms, that his plan is to place his dominions under amānee tulseel, in contradiction to the system of farming the revenues. This is all that has been recommended to him by the British Government; all the minor provisions of the plan being left to be settled by his Excellency with the Resident, in a manner that may be thoroughly satisfactory to his Excellency. My last letter to the late Nawaub Saadut Alea defines this principle strictly. Whatsoever be the modification of an amānee system, Ameens will be requisite, and no supposition can ever exist that their appointment does not flow from the unconstrained wisdom of the Nawaub Vizier himself.

The division of the country into Zillahs is in strict accordance with the plan submitted to his Excellency's late father, and cannot fail to have my entire concurrence. It is highly proper that the Zillahdars should be attended by a suitable retinue. His Excellency is aware that, by the provisions of the treaty, the number of troops to be maintained by the Government of Oude is fixed, and that limit will, of course, not be exceeded. The requisite sebandy and armed Peons, for the purpose of the collections, will of course be maintained by his Excellency's officers. The British troops will always be ready to support the just authority of the Nawaub Vizier. The objections which have been made to the employment of the British troops, in certain cases, relative to the collection of the revenue, did not apply to any instance of refractory or rebellious conduct of Zemindars against their Sovereign the Nawaub Vizier. The suppression of any opposition to the authority of his Excellency is distinctly a part of the duty of those troops. The restriction upon their interference referred itself to the support of the farmers of the revenue, whose extortions drove the Zemindars and Ryots into natural resistance. The aiding those men in their rapacity and oppressions was disgraceful to the British and always affected their feelings painfully. Abuses of that nature cannot be protected by the British troops; but when

Fourth.

when the establishment of an improved system of administration shall afford to the British Government a confidence that its troops will not be required to enforce the orders of rapacious and tyrannical Aumils and farmers, his Excellency may rely on their prompt and efficacious assistance for the maintenance of his legitimate rights and authority.

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Fourth. With respect to the administration of justice, it has been determined that in each division or Zillah a person learned in the law, with the requisite establishment of Omlah (officers), shall be attached to the Zillahdar, for the purpose of settling the disputes of the Zillah, agreeably to the ordinances of the holy law. If one of the litigants shall have a doubt regarding the justice of the decision, an appeal will lie to the court of adawlut at Lucknow; and if such party shall still have a doubt, he may refer his case to two doctors of approved experience in the law, who shall be attached to the Presence, and who shall constitute the court of sudder appeal.

I highly applaud his Excellency's intention of introducing into his dominions a regular system for the administration of justice. As this is a subject of great importance and difficulty, however, it is impossible at present to speak more specifically. When his Excellency shall have explained, as doubtless he would be solicitous to do, to the Resident the details of his plan, a just opinion may be formed of its probable efficacy. Believing it to be a point on which his Excellency would be desirous to know my sentiments, I shall be prepared to state them with the utmost frankness, and I assure myself that his Excellency would receive that communication on the subject, through the Resident, as the best proof of my regard for his interests.

I also wish to recommend to his Excellency's attention the establishment of an efficient police within his territories. On this subject the Resident will be prepared to enter into details with his Excellency.

I take this opportunity of adverting to the state of the police in those of the Honourable Company's districts which border on the territory of the Nawaub Vizier, and which, notwithstanding the arrangement adopted in concert with the late Nawaub Saadut Alea Khan, continue to be infested by banditti issuing from his Excellency's territory and finding refuge there with their booty. On this point I shall instruct the Resident to address his Excellency; and I earnestly request his Excellency's attention to what the Resident may represent, and the remedy which he will suggest to his Excellency under my orders.

Fifth. If any one of my relations, dependants, servants, or subjects, shall go to your Lordship or to Calcutta to complain, any little attention or regard to the subject of his complaint will be the cause of impairing my dignity and consequence, and will excite others to follow the same course, and be a source of trouble to your Lordship.

I can have no hesitation in promising this in the fullest manner, with no other reservation than what may be necessary for the fulfilment of the engagements of the British Government, in cases where its guarantee is pledged.

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ship. I hope that immediately on their being heard, this answer will be given to them:—that they must go and refer their complaint to their own Sovereign. In the event of their persevering and being urgent, let them be turned away with a sharp reprimand, that thus my authority and dignity may be upheld and the door be shut against evil; for three degrees of adawlut have been established here: and if, notwithstanding this, a person seeks to go from hence, it is a proof that his claim is an unjust one.

Sixth. Whereas charitable gifts and endowments bring blessings and prosperity upon a government, are acceptable in the sight of God, and exalt our reputation among men, it is my intention that the subject of the rent-free lands, which were conferred during the time of my uncle the late Nawaub Asuf-ood-Dowlah, and which in consequence of some doubts were resumed in the time of my father, shall be enquired into, and that such lands as shall appear proper to be released shall be restored. Nay, I propose to provide, on my own part, a suitable maintenance for the poor and destitute men of learning and piety, that being rendered easy in their circumstances they may occupy themselves in prayer for long life to me and the prosperity of my Government. I have written this for your Lordship's information.

Seventh. My late uncle and my father went on hunting parties whenever they were so disposed. I propose, in this respect, to follow the custom of my ancestors; and I have now apprized your Lordship of this, that it may not be displeasing to your Lordship's mind;—and agreeably to custom, let the British troops, on such occasions, be under my orders.

Having thus replied to the articles contained in the Nawaub Vizier's paper, in a manner which, I trust, will be satisfactory to his Excellency, I proceed to advert to some other points on which I am desirous of stating my sentiments.

His Excellency is aware of the opinion which former transactions, as well as those of a more recent date, have compelled me to form of the character and disposition of Hukeem Mehdee Alce Khan, and of the powerful considerations referring to the interests of both States, which compelled me to recommend to his Excellency to direct that person to quit the Court and retire to the district under his charge, and never to return to Lucknow. His Excellency having, in the spirit of friendship and a just attention to the advice of the British Government consented to this measure, it only remains to express my assurance that he will not permit it to be delayed or evaded by the Hukeemon any excuse or pretext whatever,

As far as I comprehend this paragraph, the object of the Nawaub Vizier must be equally just and generous. I understand the case to be, that certain lands were left by Asuf-ood-Dowlah for the support of particular individuals or communities. It is to be presumed, from his making that destination of them, he had the right so to alienate those lands: it is, therefore, a grievance on the pensioners, that such a provision should be taken from them. Of course, it will redound to the honour of the Nawaub Vizier's equity, if those individuals shall be re-established in their little comforts. His Excellency's intention of providing, on his own part, a suitable maintenance for the poor and destitute men of learning and piety is highly honourable to his Excellency, and must augment and extend his reputation.

This is a point on which his Excellency will have nothing to consult but his own wishes. With respect to the troops, they will attend his Excellency according to established practice.

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The important service rendered to his Excellency, and consequently to the British Government, by Rumzaun Aleo Khan, at the moment of his Excellency's accession, need not be insisted on nor urged to his Excellency as giving Rumzaun Aleo Khan a claim to his Excellency's kindness and regard. I considered it to be due to him, however, as a person who had essentially served both States, to recommend him to the Nawaub Vizier at the conference which I had the honour to hold with his Excellency on the evening of the 10th instant. His Excellency may be assured, that no unreasonable expectations on the part of Rumzaun Aleo Khan will ever be countenanced by the British Government. All that I feel it incumbent on me to solicit on his behalf, besides his Excellency's general countenance and favour, is the continuance to him of his present allowance from his Excellency's Government, and an equivalent for the emoluments of the offices which he held at the period of his Excellency's accession, if at any time his Excellency should think fit to supersede him in the exercise of the functions of those offices. To this extent I consider Rumzaun Aleo Khan to be entitled to my recommendation of him to the justice and liberality of the Vizier, and I offer it in perfect confidence of his Excellency's acceptance of it in the spirit in which it is conceived.

I trust that the appointment of the persons selected by the Nawaub Vizier to conduct the details of business on behalf of his Excellency's son and Minister, the Nawaub Nuseer-ood-Deen Hyder, will, by relieving his Excellency's mind of a burden of detail, and by facilitating a free and unreserved communication with the Resident on all points of common interest, promote both his Excellency's personal comfort and the welfare of the Government of Oude. While those persons continue to act with fidelity towards their master, and shall study to promote the genuine interests of his Excellency's Government, they will not fail to merit and receive the countenance, approbation, and support of the British Government, which can never be acquired by any of his Excellency's subjects or servants, except by the conduct which I have described.

The paper delivered to me by his Excellency at the first conference which I had the honour to hold with him at Cawnpore, although since withdrawn, contains many points on which it appears to me that a communication of my sentiments would be satisfactory to his Excellency. I therefore add some observations and assurances arising out of the consideration of that paper, which I trust will constitute a new ground of confidence, on the part of his Excellency, in the sincere interest which the British Government takes in his honour, dignity, and welfare, and of my cordial personal disposition to promote them.

The treaty unquestionably, in every fair construction, purported to leave the Nawaub Vizier an independent Sovereign within the reserved dominions. The clause by which the interference of the British Government, with advice or remonstrance through the Resident, is acknowledged as a right, can never, in any decent acceptation, be understood to mean a meddling with the Vizier's family and domestic concerns much less an avowed protection of his servants when they act in opposition to the orders of their master, and a pretension to bow his Excellency to subservience in the ordinary and indifferent affairs of life. No interference of that nature will ever have the countenance of the British Government.

It has already been distinctly explained to his Excellency, in my name, that I not only am earnestly desirous that his Excellency should be free and unshackled in the choice of his domestic servants, but that I shall derive a positive gratification from learning that he removes from his presence any individuals who may be obnoxious to him, from whatever cause. I take this occasion of repeating and recording the sentiment.

The situation of the Nawaub's brothers and relations, unless where provision is made for them under some guarantee of the British Government, is a matter exclusively for his Excellency's own judgment. It is a subject on which neither the Governor-General nor the Resident, in his official character, will ever touch, unless where he has had special instructions, or where his Excellency may invite an opinion by some spontaneous introduction of the topic. The relations of the Nawaub Vizier must owe to him that obedience and submission which is due to the Sovereign from his family in all Mohummudan Governments,
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and the British Government can never legitimately uphold any of them in contumacy against their Sovereign. The Nawaub Vizier's resolution not to reduce their stipends, while he justly claims the power of doing it, is becoming his generosity.

The completion of the arrangements connected with the retirement to Benares of the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah has afforded me great satisfaction. The discharge of the arrears of the Nawaub's former stipend, in the manner settled with his Excellency at the conference, namely, by the payment being made in the first instance from the Company's treasury, and the amount to be replaced by the Vizier, has also proved satisfactory to me.

On the justice or the policy of calling Shums-ood-Dowlah and others to account for sums received by them from their late father, the Governor-General might offer counsel were it asked, but he could never dictate. It is a concern of the Nawaub Vizier's internal administration. On the face of the thing, it is obvious that there would be insuperable difficulty in ascertaining what sums had been issued by the late Vizier to those personages on account for public purposes, or what was considered by him as absolute gifts to them. I apprehend that no documents exist to mark any such distinction, if even the specific amount of monies delivered to Shums-ood-Dowlah and Nuseer-ood-Dowlah can be ascertained. No proof in that case could be attained beyond their own acknowledgment. It might, therefore, be most expedient only to call upon them for a statement, without appearance of suspicion or harshness of address. This, however, is said on an assumption of a fact (the non-existence of official records) which may not be accurate.

His Excellency having intimated, through the Resident, his disposition to refrain from any demands respecting this money on the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, a disposition which, under the actual circumstances of the case, I highly applaud, his Excellency will perhaps consider what is above stated as acquiring greater force in its application to the case of Nuseer-ood-Dowlah.

If it be the custom of the Nawaub's family that they should none of them pay a visit to the Governor-General without previous permission from his Excellency the Vizier, the Governor-General undoubtedly will not encourage any breach of that observance.

Nothing can be more humane and generous than the disposition professed by the Nawaub Vizier to retain in their situations all those who were in employment under his father, on condition of their serving him with attendance and fidelity. His Excellency is the only judge as to what number and description of persons shall be employed by him. I have only to repeat the assurance, already given, that no interference in his Excellency's family and household will ever be practised or countenanced by the British Government.

British troops are at present employed as guards over the palace, treasury, &c. This is a matter wholly dependant on the pleasure of the Vizier, and he has only to signify his orders that those duties shall be taken by his own sepoys.

The British Government can have no cognizance of any thing that relates to the ladies of the harem or slaves. This observation does not extend to anterior fundamental arrangements, in which the British Government may have become guarantee for provision to female branches of his Excellency's family. In all other cases any interference of the British Government would be improper.

I have the sincerest solicitude to give to the situation of the Nawaub Vizier every degree of respectability and comfort. If I fail in the attempt to effect that purpose, it will be only from inability to ascertain in what particulars his Excellency feels ill at ease, or considers his dignity not duly consulted.

The augmentation of business consequent to his Excellency's accession to the musnud, doubtless rendered necessary more frequent communications from the Resident than would be required in ordinary times. Since that necessity has ceased to exist, the intercourse by visit will, of course, revert to its former footing, viz. whenever the Resident may have business to communicate, he will

will send and request that his Excellency will fix a time for honouring him with an audience. Whensoever his Excellency may wish to confer with the Resident, he will send to propose an interview. The intercourse of the Resident with the subordinate Ministers must, of necessity, be frequent, and will of course be regulated in such a manner as shall best suit the regular transaction of business and the convenience of the parties.

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The British Government is perfectly disposed to render the succession to the musnud of Oude in the family of the present Nawaub Vizier secure and unquestionable. If the line of that succession, as defined by the law and recognized in principle by the country, be certified to the Governor-General, the British Government will have no hesitation to guarantee it.

To conclude, I have only again to request his Excellency to repose entire confidence in the justice, honour, and friendship of the British Government, and in its earnest desire to promote, by every practicable means, his true interests and advantage. I also entreat his Excellency to repose a similar reliance on the Resident, Major Baillie, who possesses my entire confidence, and whose conduct will be regulated by the principles stated in this paper, and to consider the Resident as his friend, and to recur to his advice and assistance in all matters of difficulty and importance, in the perfect confidence that they will be directed to no other object than his Excellency's genuine interest and reputation.

A true copy :

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. You will receive from the Persian Secretary to the Governor-General a copy and translation of a letter addressed to his Lordship by his Excellency the Vizier, and of a paper under his Excellency's seal enclosed in it, together with the Governor-General's reply, enclosing the answers to the Vizier's papers, and copies of them in English and Persian, for your information.

2. Although you were present at the conference held by the Governor-General with his Excellency the Vizier on the evening of the 10th instant, at which the substance of the Governor-General's reply to the Vizier's paper was communicated verbally to his Excellency, and are apprized of the views and sentiments of his Lordship on all the points to which it relates, his Lordship deems it advisable to communicate to you in writing such observations and instructions as occur to him to be necessary for your guidance, with reference to the questions discussed in the documents above referred to.

Article 1.

3. It is only necessary to observe, with reference to this article, that the Governor-General considers it to be no less essential to the honour and reputation of the British Government than to the comfort, independence, and dignity of the Vizier, as secured to him by the provisions of the Treaty of Cession, to maintain the principle stated in the Governor-General's answer. His Lordship relies with confidence on your disposition cordially and zealously to give effect to the views and resolutions of the Governor-General in these respects, and both to regulate your own conduct in conformity to this principle and to enforce the observance of similar conduct in others.

Articles 2 and 3.

4. It is extremely desirable that the question of the specific plan of reform to be introduced into his Excellency's Government should be decided with the least practicable delay. The necessity of a reform need not be insisted on in this place, and you are fully apprized of the sentiments of the Governor-General on every part of that important subject. Under the tenor of the answer returned by the Governor-General to the second article of the Vizier's paper, his Lordship concludes that his Excellency will immediately either signify his assent to the plan submitted to him by the British Government, or lay

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lay before the Governor-General the plan which he may desire to substitute for it. In the former case, you will proceed without delay, in concert with his Excellency and his Ministers, to carry the plan into effect throughout his dominions. The Governor-General cannot too earnestly enjoin the most scrupulous, and even delicate reserve, on your part, on all points connected with his Excellency's selection of the officers to be employed as Ameens, and subsequently as Tuhseeldars and Zillahdars. The efficiency and success of the system depend so much on the proper selection of officers, and the interest of the British Government in its efficiency and success is so direct, that his Lordship cannot relinquish or compromise the right of representing its objections to any persons of proved or known incompetence with respect to character or qualifications, with a view to the reconsideration of the selection; but no degree of interference beyond that just described would be consistent either with the provisions of the treaty, or with that free and independent authority within his own territories, to which the Vizier is justly entitled, and which his Lordship is determined to secure to him. You will feel yourself at liberty, therefore, to convey to his Excellency, in the most full and explicit manner, the resolution of the Governor-General to leave to his Excellency's free choice, with the qualification above stated, the instruments of the proposed reform, together with the assurance of his Lordship's entire reliance on a discreet and judicious selection of them: And, on the other hand, you will not hesitate to represent any objections which may exist to the employment of particular individuals, and request his Excellency to reconsider the subject with a view to the appointment of more competent persons.

5. If the Vizier shall proffer a plan of his own, you will, of course, receive and submit it for the consideration of the Governor-General with such observations and remarks as may occur to you; and you will suspend any further proceedings relative to the reform until the receipt of his Lordship's instructions, which will be communicated without delay. Should neither of the courses above adverted to be adopted by the Vizier at an early period, you will be pleased to bring the subject to his recollection, and request him to follow one or the other, in time to admit of a speedy decision of the question.

6. I am directed to take this opportunity of adverting to your despatches of the dates noted in the margin,* which were not replied to at the time of their receipt, as the measures reported in them, relative to the introduction of the reform into a part of the Vizier's dominions with his Excellency's concurrence did not appear to require any special remark or instructions, having been adopted under the previous orders of Government. It may not be misplaced on the present occasion, however, to signify the Governor-General's entire approbation of those proceedings.

Article 4.

7. On receiving from the Vizier a communication of the details of his Excellency's plan for the administration of justice within his territories, you will, of course, submit them with your own remarks for the consideration of the Governor-General. If his Excellency should express a desire to enter on the discussion of those details with you, you will, of course, comply with his wishes and afford him the benefit of your advice and suggestions.

8. It occurs to his Lordship, that there can be no better practical basis for a system of this nature, than that proposed by his Excellency himself in the first paper which he delivered to the Governor-General at Cawnpore, and of which a copy is in your possession: *viz.* the institution of three separate courts for the trial of causes arising among the Mussulmans of either sect and the Hindoos. His Lordship will approve of your recalling this plan to the Vizier's consideration, if the opportunity shall be afforded you of offering any suggestions on the part of the British Government. With respect to the police, his Lordship is not prepared to form a decided opinion on the plan which might be best suited to the actual condition of his Excellency's dominions. His Lordship is disposed to think, however, that the charge of the police in the mofussil might be vested in the

* 20th July, 29th July, and 2d, 13th, and 26th September.

the Zillahdars and subordinate collectors of revenue, and that in some cases the Zemindars might have charge of the police within their own estates, and be held responsible for the good order of the tract under their authority. These observations are made to enable you, in the event of the subject being brought by the Vizier under discussion between his Excellency and yourself, to state your knowledge of the Governor-General's sentiments as far as they can yet be formed.

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9. With regard to the police of the Honourable Company's districts bordering on the territories of the Vizier, a subject to which the Governor-General attaches considerable importance, I am directed to desire that you will bring it to his Excellency's notice with the least practicable delay. His Excellency's spontaneous offer, declared at the conference, to give orders to the officers of his Government to comply, without a reference to his authority, with all applications from the Magistrates of adjoining districts, and of their Police Daroghas, for the seizure of offenders finding refuge in his Excellency's territories, if acted upon with zeal, energy, and good faith, might preclude the necessity of any further recommendation to his Excellency for the correction of the existing evil. An authority limited to the Magistrates and the Daroghas, or Jemadars of thannas, to pursue offenders across the frontier, would constitute a material improvement, but if you should have reason to think that the latter proposition would be unacceptable to his Excellency, you will not bring it forward, unless the other plan shall be found after experiment to fail. You will, at all events, be pleased to request his Excellency to issue his proposed orders to the officers of his Government and to enforce their obedience.

10. The establishment of either or both of the two plans above adverted to, combined with the arrangement already in force relative to the employment of the British troops stationed within the territory of Oude, would, if properly executed, afford every hope of effecting an improvement in the police of the districts adjoining the territories of the Vizier, which can never be attained under the present system. The Governor-General is persuaded that his Excellency the Vizier will admit, without hesitation, the justice of the grounds on which his Lordship feels himself entitled to expect the sincere and cordial co-operation of his Government in a measure so essential to the security and comfort of the Honourable Company's subjects.

Articles 5, 6, and 7.

11. These articles require no observation in addition to those stated in the Governor-General's answer to each.

12. I now proceed to the other points adverted to at the conference, but not immediately arising out of the Vizier's paper.

13. You are fully aware of the solid grounds of justice and expediency on which the Governor-General felt himself entitled to recommend to the Vizier the removal from Lucknow of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan. His Excellency having assented to the measure without reserve, the Governor-General does not doubt that it will be carried into effect. As the early removal of the Hukeem is considered, under actual circumstances, to be of urgent importance, you will be pleased to move his Excellency to carry it into execution without delay, and not to admit of any excuse or pretence on the part of the Hukeem to evade the order. It is superfluous to observe, that as the Governor-General would not have proposed the measure, except under a firm conviction that the continued residence of the Hukeem at Lucknow was irreconcilable with the real interests of the State of Oude and of the British Government, his Excellency cannot recede from a proposition so deliberately made and unequivocally assented to.

14. The case of Rumzaun Alee Khan is one deserving of the kindness and consideration of the Vizier and of the regard of the British Government, whose interests were essentially served by the conduct of that person, in immediately communicating to you, and to you alone, the demise of the Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan, by which means you were enabled to take the precautions necessary for securing the unopposed accession of the present Vizier. The Governor-General infers, from the remarks which fell from the Vizier on this subject at the conference,

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ference, that Rumzaun Alee Khan estimates his service on this occasion too highly, and founds on it unreasonable pretensions. No countenance can, of course, be given to such pretensions; but the Governor-General has inserted in the answer to the Vizier's paper, his expectation, founded on his Excellency's promise at the conference, that Rumzaun Alee Khan shall continue in the enjoyment of his actual allowance from the Vizier's Government, and receive an equivalent for the emoluments of the offices which he held at the Court of Lucknow at the period of the Vizier's accession, in the event of his Excellency not deeming it to be proper to continue him in the exercise of those functions. To this extent, therefore, you are authorized, in the event of any attempt to deprive Rumzaun Alee Khan of the advantages above specified, to interpose in his behalf, by representation to the Vizier, and by reminding him of the assurance which he gave to the Governor-General on the subject.

15. You will observe that the Governor-General has added to the answers to the Vizier's requests, and to the communication on the other points above referred to, some observations regarding the just and fair construction, in his Lordship's estimation, of the terms of the treaty, as referring to the nature and extent of the Vizier's authority within the reserved dominions, and an exposition of the principles on which his Lordship proposes to regulate his conduct towards the State of Oude. There are other observations, also, suggested by the tenor of the first paper delivered by the Vizier to the Governor-General at Cawnpore, which although since withdrawn, furnish the opportunity of stating to his Excellency the sentiments of the Governor-General, on several points on which a knowledge of them must be satisfactory.

16. The Governor-General cannot omit this opportunity of communicating to you some observations and instructions relative to the course of conduct which he considers it to be proper for the Resident at Lucknow invariably to pursue, as being equally prescribed by the fair construction of the treaty of 1801, and by every principle of sound policy with relation to the Court of Lucknow.

17. In construing the terms of the recorded engagements between the Honourable Company and the Nawaub of Oude, it is required by every principle of justice, that the most liberal and comprehensive meaning should be given to such articles as are in favour of that party, whose weakness presents no security for him but in that good faith on which he has relied. If abstract equity offer this conclusion, his Excellency is no less persuaded that sound policy will equally uphold it. It would be much gained, were one only to avoid the chance of that extremity, which should force you to withdraw the Nawaub's Government and establish your own in these territories: because such a necessity, though it might morally exist, could never be made out to the world, and the seizure of the Nawaub's possessions, would be universally stigmatized as a premeditated usurpation, arising from a base cupidity. When an exigency, such as that alluded to, is supposed possible, the circumstance which could create it demands close reflection. One case alone can be imagined, capable of driving us to a conduct so repugnant to our wishes, namely, the discovery that the Nawaub had secretly leagued himself with the enemies of the British Government, and was practising with them for our overthrow. This case, however, could not occur but through absolute desperation on the part of the Nawaub; and such desperation could only be produced by his undergoing a course of indignities or oppressions which he would regard in that light, so as that he should think the most unpromising conspiracy preferable to submission under such insults. Our interests might be very seriously affected by that temper in the Nawaub. It is true he has no troops, but he has much mischief in his power. He has vast command of money. Supplying by stealth funds to those who would with such a resource be able to levy any number of men, he might draw upon the Company the expense and danger of a war, leaving it infinitely difficult for us to trace his having furnished those supplies. The rendering the situation of the Nawaub comfortable is, therefore, an object no less incumbent on our policy than dictated by our generous feelings. This consideration, then, is to be held perpetually in view by the Resident, and eminently to guide his procedures.

18. The reservation by treaty of a right to interfere with advice or remonstrance upon any management of affairs within the Nawaub's reserved dominions, which

which may injuriously affect the British interest, clearly implies that, in all other respects, the administration of the Nawaub is to be free: but, indeed, it is evident from the whole tenor of the treaty, that an uninterrupted exercise of his own authority within the reserved dominions was assured to him, in order to qualify the very strong step which we took in appropriating to ourselves (as an exchange for the subsidy) so large a portion of his territories. The Nawaub is, consequently, to be treated in all public observance as an independent prince. Essentially he must be subservient to the British Government; but in proportion as that point is secure, personal attentions to him involve no inconvenience, and on the other hand they cannot but be productive of advantage.

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19. In all intercourse the Resident should consider himself as the ambassador from the British Government to an acknowledged Sovereign. A respectful urbanity, and a strict fulfilment of established ceremonials, should thence be preserved by the Resident towards his Excellency. The latter must be conscious of the power of the Resident to exercise influence over him, so that any parade of that influence in the eyes of others must be no less useless than revolting. It must, therefore, be the care of the Resident, cautiously to abstain from any such ostentation of authority. He is, in a most special manner, to forbear from countenancing or encouraging any servant of the Nawaub in contumacious opposition to his master; and he should lay it down as a positive rule, not to recommend from his own household any person for reception into the immediate suite of the Nawaub. In regard to interviews, regular form should be invariably maintained. When the Resident desires to communicate with the Nawaub, he should always send to ask the audience, and not repair at once to the palace, so as to give the appearance of the Nawaub's being constrained to grant it, howsoever inconvenient. Within the palace as well as in public, whatever may be the intimacy which prior habits or services have established between the Nawaub and the Resident, an air of deferential politeness should be maintained by the Resident. This can never deceive the Nawaub into resistance against any just propositions of the Resident, but will, on the contrary, make him the more flexible, lest he should forfeit a show of respect calculated to exalt him in the eyes of his subjects. Finally, after what has recently passed, the Resident should be cautious not to let any of the gentlemen attached to the Residency slide into regular functions in any of the Nawaub's establishments. Such a position must always militate with their primary duties, and cannot fail to lead to irregularities. This observation does not extend to the physician. The claims of humanity would forbid any shackle to the Nawaub's addressing himself for medical advice to the surgeon of the Residency, and there can be no objection to any arrangement which shall make that recurrence more prompt and satisfactory.

20. By a due regard to these principles, the Governor-General hopes that both yourself and succeeding Residents will obtain from the Nawaub a willing compliance, on every occasion where it may be necessary to interpose advice, an acquiescence of very different import to the interests of the British Government from that enforced, reluctant, and tardy submission, which leaves the minds of the parties soured, and thence leads inevitably to mischievous estrangement.

I have, &c.

Camp, Mahonah,
12th November 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM;
Secretary to the Government.

The Governor-General's Minute.

In order that my view of the extraordinary transactions to which the foregoing documents relate may be distinctly understood, it is necessary that I should enter into details which are not furnished by those documents.

When I arrived at Cawnpore, viz. on the 8th October, I had not the remotest suspicion that Major-Baillie was not to the highest degree in the good graces of the Nawaub Vizier. The letters of Major Baillie, my only source of information, pictured the confidence and attachment of the Nawaub Vizier towards him in the most glowing colours: and although Major Baillie made some complaint about his Excellency's hanging back from the reform of the revenue administration, I did not put upon the circumstance any construction beyond this: that the

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the Resident had used an indiscreet importunacy on that particular point, which had made the Nawaub Vizier regard the subject with some distaste.

The visit which the Nawaub Vizier first paid to me was a matter of such ceremony as left no room for deducing any conclusions. I only made it the opportunity of testifying to his Excellency such dispositions as were calculated to invite his fullest reliance on me.

On Thursday the 13th October, I returned his Excellency's visit. After breakfast I requested that I might have some private conversation with him. I had the day before desired the Resident to apprise him that I should do so. On his proposing to retire to an inner tent, I begged that Mr. Ricketts (Mr. Adam was unwell) and Mr. Swinton, as well as the Resident, might accompany us, stating that the two first were necessarily to be apprized of all that might there take place, and might therefore as well witness the conversation as have it subsequently retailed by me. This was admitted. The conversation commenced by the tender by the Vizier of the loan (see despatch to his Excellency the Vice-President in Council dated 29th October*) to the Honourable Company of one crore of rupees, and which was accepted with suitable expression of my sense of the friendly spirit in which the offer was made, and then entered into the views of the British Government regarding his Excellency's situation, which were calculated to excite great satisfaction in him; for they not only extinguished some apprehensions which I am sure he entertained, but they must have gone beyond his hopes in the security they afforded for his future comfort. I entreated him to repose himself without reserve on Major Baillie, whom I stated as possessing my entire confidence; and I told his Excellency that if any thing capable of promoting his respectability and ease were left unarranged, it would be his own fault in not suggesting the points to me. It did strike me that this address was not met by his Excellency with as much display of gratification as I thought it might naturally have produced; but I ascribed this, on reflection, to the habitual gravity of countenance which the Asiatics are accustomed to preserve. His Excellency then presented a paper,† containing, as he said, certain articles to which he solicited my attention. I handed it to Mr. Swinton saying that it would be translated by that gentleman, and that I would then lose no time in answering it. Major Baillie took the paper and began to examine it with an apparent anxiety, which proved that such a production was unexpected by him. I interrupted this by a remark, that no comment could be made on the sudden upon a document of that nature, and that I must see its contents in English before I could discuss them.

Mr. Clarke had been introduced to my Secretary, Mr. Thompson, by a letter from Mr. Alexander, in which the latter represents Mr. Clarke as not only a person of tried integrity, but as one so possessed of the language, and so conversant with all concerns at Lucknow, as that he might be very useful to Mr. Thompson in his arrangements for our progress, on which ground Mr. Alexander recommended him to acquaintance and attention. Captain McLeod's sister was intimately known by Lady Loudon when in Scotland, whence civilities had been shown to him while he was in Calcutta. From this cause those gentlemen were asked to dine with me on the same day.

When they arrived at Cawnpore they went to Mr. Thompson's tent. As a mere loose topic of conversation, he said that he trusted I had left the Nawaub Vizier's mind thoroughly comfortable. He was astonished at their answering, "so far from it, he is in a state of absolute despair." On his asking the meaning of such an assertion, they told him that the Nawaub Vizier had reckoned upon being delivered from the despotism of Major Baillie, but that I had, on the contrary rivetted his chains, by declaring that Major Baillie possessed my entire confidence. Mr. Thompson very properly judged that I ought not to be left ignorant of the circumstance, and communicated it accordingly. I desired to see the two gentlemen, and I received them separately. I could not have the least doubt of the Nawaub's having imparted to them all that passed at the interview, for the course of the conversation which I had held was accurately detailed by each of them. No Minister or attendant of the
Nawaub

* Vide page 711.

† See Document marked No. 1.

Nawaub had been present, therefore his Excellency himself was the only person capable of imparting what had then passed. In answer to my questions, many matters felt as grievances by the Nawaub were mentioned by them. Not either of them spoke with the slightest asperity of Major Baillie, and Captain McLeod appeared to me not frank enough in his replies. I had, either on the preceding day or the day before that, endeavoured to obtain from him information about a story current in the camp, of a servant of the Nawaub's having been wounded by the Suwarree of the Resident, and the tone of his answers had really made me believe that he was labouring to give a favourable colour to the transaction from attachment to Major Baillie. I said to both those gentlemen, that though I could not doubt the accuracy of their information, the statement did not come in a form which I could recognize; that the Nawaub himself was the only person from whom I could formally know particulars of such a nature; and that I had reason to complain of his not unbosoming himself, when I had given him such ample encouragement in the morning. Their remark was, that his Excellency's mind was in such subjection to Major Baillie, as that he would never attempt to complain of that gentleman in his presence.

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This passed on Thursday. The Nawaub Vizier was to dine with me on the Saturday. In the interval a letter came from Mr. Clarke, requesting, on the part of his Excellency, that when he should arrive at my quarters I would give him the opportunity of speaking to me in private without Major Baillie's being present. I requested Mr. Ricketts to answer the letter, intimating that the desired opportunity should be given to the Nawaub Vizier; but observing that the application should have come through the official channel of one of the Government secretaries, and cautioning Mr. Clarke against bearing any further part in such a correspondence.

When the Nawaub came, *viz.* on the 15th of October, I expressed my wish that he would retire with me to a private room, telling Major Baillie that I thought it would be most delicate to dispense with his attendance. I told the Nawaub, however, that I must take the liberty of having Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton present, as they were my confidential assistants, sworn to secrecy, and as I had made the resolution that I never would have a private conference with any Native Prince unless they witnessed the interview.

His Excellency did not object. I then asked if he wished that any of his suite should be present. He said it was unnecessary. My first question to his Excellency was, whether he had authorized Mr. Clarke to request that I would give his Excellency the opportunity of a conference without Major Baillie's being present. He answered that he had authorized Mr. Clarke to that effect. My reply was, that I was happy to meet his wishes; but that as I could not rest on what Mr. Clarke had loosely said, I entreated his Excellency to explain himself to me without reserve.

The Vizier took this occasion to observe that he had proposed to advance to the Honourable Company a crore of rupees by way of loan, but that this was nothing, and he begged that it might be accepted as a free gift. The obvious objections to my receiving the money on any other terms than that of a loan were explained to his Excellency. I repeated my assurances, that it was the sincere disposition of the British Government to uphold his dignity and to promote his comfort. He still maintained an unaccountable silence as to particulars, but he said that he had drawn up a paper explaining the objects for which he looked to my justice and kindness, though he had not brought it with him; and he added, that he would transmit it on the morrow, with every hope that I would attend to it. I assured him that the contents of the paper should be duly weighed; but I observed, that the duration of my stay at Cawnpore must be short, and that we should expedite matters much if he would now enable me to discuss with him the outline of what he had committed to writing. He appeared so shy, that I doubted whether he really thought me sincere in the invitation I had given him to speak; so that I repeated again with energy the assertion that the British Government had no indirect views, and only required to know what would best advance his prosperity and satisfaction.

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Still his Excellency maintained the same caution, only referring me to Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan. This he did twice. It appeared to me awkward to take the Hukeem into consultation after I had entertained an objection to that individual's being contemplated by his Excellency for his Minister, on account of recorded obstructions attempted by Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan to purposes of the British Government: the interview therefore closed. Mr. Clarke afterwards declared that the Nawaub Vizier had pleaded his knowledge of Mr. Swinton's peculiar attachment to Major Baillie, as the reason for his not having availed himself of the opening thus afforded to him.

In this state matters continued till I reached Lucknow; nor did any thing particular occur for a short time after my arrival there. The second paper promised by the Nawaub Vizier was not sent until the second day after my arrival, and then only in consequence of my having taken occasion, at a visit the Vizier paid to me at Constantia, at breakfast, to say to his Excellency that I had delayed the answer to the first paper until I had received the further one promised. It was then sent to Mr. Swinton (see Document No. 2). A morning or two afterwards, when we had been to see an elephant fight at a country palace of the Nawaub Vizier's, at the breakfast which followed, his Excellency said two or three things, which I understood, across me to Major Baillie. He then said something which I did not exactly catch, my attention having been attracted elsewhere. Major Baillie on this said to me, "His Excellency desires that I would petition your Lordship, in his name, to appoint Mr. Wilson physician to his Excellency's person." It had been represented by Mr. Clarke, that a heavy grievance of the Vizier's was Major Baillie's endeavouring to deprive him of Mr. Law, and to fix his (Major Baillie's) own physician, Mr. Wilson, on his Excellency. Struck with this recollection, and not confident that the phrase which I had loosely heard applied itself to a physician at all, I answered that I could not give any promise so much on the sudden, as there might be objections to which I was not at the instant able to advert. The next day we went to course antelopes with cheetas in the park of Dil Cooshā. The Nawaub Vizier remarked to me the unfitness of the hackeries on which two cheetas of mine were carried. Immediately after I heard him ask Captain Gilbert to breakfast with him the next morning. Captain Gilbert had so little suspicion of any political objects being involved in the invitation, that he came in the middle of the day to ask me if I would allow him to take my aide-de-camp, Captain M'Rae to the breakfast. His addressing me for that leave gave me the opportunity of speaking to him on a point which I should not otherwise have thought of mentioning to him.

I told him it was clear to me that the Nawaub had desired his attendance for the purpose of arranging with him some kind of carriage for my cheetas, which I desired Captain Gilbert to resist, as I had already got Captain Gilbert to provide convenient vehicles; but I said, "as you are to have this conversation, I wish you would dexterously make out for me what is the Nawaub's real wish about a physician, it being doubtful to me whether he prefers Mr. Law or Mr. Wilson."

After breakfast the next morning, the Nawaub took Captain Gilbert into a private room. Before his Excellency began any discourse Captain Gilbert asked him (as if from a sudden thought of his own) which of the two he wished to have for his physician. The Nawaub in the most earnest terms exclaimed, that he wished for Mr. Law, and he reprobated the attempt of Major Baillie to force Mr. Wilson upon him. His Excellency then unfolded a long string of grievances against Major Baillie, professing that, as long as Major Baillie should remain at Lucknow, he (the Nawaub) could never have an hour's comfort. He urged this with great apparent earnestness and much repetition, confirming more than once the expression of his wish that Mr. Law should not be removed, and closing the conversation by saying, "I was very anxious to confide all this to you." His Excellency never adverted to the cheetas, or to any other subject than his own distresses, so that, as far as one can judge from appearances, he had desired the interview for the sole purpose of communicating his discontent. Captain Gilbert very properly waited upon me as soon as he was dismissed by the Nawaub Vizier, and imparted to me this extraordinary conversation.

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On the morrow I was to review the subsidiary battalions at the cantonment, and the Nawaub Vizier was to accompany me. My horses being sent forward to the review ground, I went in my phaeton to the gate of the Nawaub's palace, which was in our road. His Excellency being a-foot at the gate, I invited him into the phaeton with me. On our way I told him that Captain Gilbert had informed me of his Excellency's wishes in favour of Mr. Law, and I said that Mr. Law should be appointed accordingly. Though I have not in the language that facility which is requisite for conversation, I possess it sufficiently not to err in the structure of a phrase when I have time to meditate it; therefore I am quite sensible that in my expressions to the Nawaub I did not leave room for miscomprehension. He immediately clasped my hands eagerly, and with more veracity of countenance than I had ever before witnessed in him, he said that he had no hope but in my kindness. That this statement may not be too prolix, I endeavoured to avoid advertence to any thing which may be recorded in other documents relative to this transaction; yet I cannot omit observing, that when Mr. Ricketts went by my desire to apprise the Nawaub that I should take him into a private room at the Resident's (where we were to meet at dinner), without allowing Major Baillie to be present, and to beg his Excellency to consider the speaking before Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, exactly the same thing as if he spoke to me alone, his Excellency confirmed to Mr. Ricketts all that he had said to Captain Gilbert, and he closed with apparently an unpremeditated ebullition of, "cannot you get Major Baillie removed?"

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The next conference took place at the Residency on the evening of the 31st October, in consequence of what passed at the visit paid to the Nawaub Vizier by Mr. Ricketts on the forenoon of that day, as above mentioned. There were present, besides the Vizier and myself, Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton. His Excellency was asked again to state, without reserve, what his real wishes were; and I assured him that I had no object but his honour and welfare. His Excellency presented a paper,* saying that it contained the points on which he was desirous of receiving my acquiescence; that it contained, also, those matters which were stated in detail in the paper delivered to Mr. Ricketts. Some of the subjects were then adverted to. The Vizier suddenly remarked, that he wished to have my order that the nobut, which had been prevented from beating at the gateway, might be allowed to beat: and on being questioned about it, and the reason why it did not beat, his Excellency observed that it did not beat because the sound disturbed the Resident. The Vizier seemed to have this point much at heart; for as the conference was breaking up he said with eagerness, "I hope your Lordship will order the nobut to beat: let it beat to-morrow morning." Another point, and which had been stated to Mr. Ricketts, was now discussed: the appointment of persons to fill the office of Paishcar to his son and his grandson, whom he proposed to appoint, the one to be Minister and the other chief judge. His Excellency stated his wish to be, that Hukeem Mehdee or Imām Bukhsh should be Paishcar; some uncertainty appearing as to whether he meant that one or the other should be appointed, or both, a conversation ensued on the subject, which was ended by his Excellency saying that "or" was written in the paper. I observed, that a necessity existed for the Paishcar being a person who had not only the confidence of his Excellency but that of the British Government; that the conduct and known disposition of Hukeem Mehdee were such as to make it impossible for the British Government to confide in him; and that his appointment, consequently, would not promote harmony and good understanding between the two States. The Vizier said that Hukeem Mehdee was a man of capacity and integrity, and had his confidence, but that he had enemies because he would not join with others (meaning the Resident), and that he hoped that he might be appointed: to which I replied, that the British Government had good information, and could not confide in Hukeem Mehdee as a Minister. That, however, it was not at all my wish that Hukeem Mehdee should be excluded from his Excellency's service: that, on the contrary, I thought his employment as a revenue officer was advantageous to his Excellency's interests. The Vizier did not urge the point further, but said that he hoped

* See Document marked No. 5.

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hoped there was no objection to Imām Bukhsh: to which I observed, that I knew of none, but would if he pleased enquire. His Excellency replied, that he would give in the names of several persons from amongst whom a Paishcar might be selected: to which I said, that I could make no selection, as the choice must be his own.

At this conference the Vizier observed that he had complaints against Major Baillie, and that the paper contained them all. On leaving the room his Excellency spoke again about the nobut, as before stated. I remarked that some mistake must have occurred about it, but that enquiry should be made and an answer given before his Excellency left the house. I accordingly desired Mr. Adam to ask Major Baillie whether he had in any manner interfered about the nobut. Major Baillie declared that he never had, directly or indirectly, interfered; that the nobut had never been beaten at the new palace, but had remained at the old palace; that he concluded, that after the new nobut khana was built, the late Vizier observing its contiguity to the Residency, had, out of consideration for his (Major Baillie's) comfort, refrained from beating it. I in consequence requested the Nawaub Vizier to order the nobut to be beaten at the new palace whenever he pleased.

On the following day Agha Meer was sent with the message to Mr. Adam and Mr. Swinton, as detailed in their report; and on the day after those gentlemen waited on his Excellency, and received the communication, also detailed in their report, and in the letter from the Vizier, retracting the complaints against Major Baillie, and charging Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Law, and Mr. De L'Etang, with having urged him to make them. On the 4th November Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton waited on the Nawaub Vizier, in pursuance of my written instructions to them. All that followed appears in the papers marked Nos. 10 et seq.: except that, although the Nawaub Vizier persisted to Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, in the assertion that my name had not been used to influence his Excellency's sudden change of conduct, Captain McLeod maintained to me that Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, and two others whom he specified, were present when Agha Meer did use my name to frighten his master into compliance with the counsel which he then gave. The language supposed to have been used by Agha Meer to the Nawaub was, "that his Excellency had ruined himself; that the Governor-General was outrageous at his Excellency's complaints against Major Baillie, and even talked of removing the Nawaub from the musnud; and that there was no remedy but to declare he had been misled by the artifices of others to profess what was most opposite to the wishes or dictates of his heart." I have no doubt but that Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan asserted this to Captain McLeod. Whether it were true, or only a daring attempt of the Hukeem's to overbear the Nawaub by the testimony of himself and his colleagues, I cannot guess. The Hukeem, I apprehend, was anxious to be brought forward and examined, for Captain McLeod earnestly petitioned that those persons should be questioned on the point in presence of the Nawaub. I told Captain McLeod, that after the positive declaration of the Nawaub on the subject, I could not do any thing which would so distinctly impeach his veracity by implication, as the examining his servants on the point. Another solicitation made by Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke was rejected by me on the same ground of delicacy. His Excellency had charged them with having impressed him with the notion that I disliked Major Baillie, and that his Excellency could not gratify me more than by affording me ostensible ground for removing that gentleman from his situation. Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke severally denied having ever uttered any insinuation of that tenor, and they implored that I would sit as in council and receive their declaration on oath, in face of the Nawaub Vizier, as to the absolute non-existence of any colour for that charge against their probity. Awkward as the procedure would have been, I know not that I could have brought myself to refuse to those gentlemen the means of expurgation equitably due when their honour was so arraigned, had I not felt myself ready to record the most unwavering conviction of their entire innocence in that particular. The charge carries no probability on the face of it.

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Those gentlemen might have personal dislike to Major Baillie, but that they should indulge it at the extreme risk which they must be aware would attend a misrepresentation so likely to be brought to the test, is not credible. That any advantage to themselves, other than the gratification of spleen against the Resident, could arise out of this machination, has not been surmised, and is not readily conceivable: on the other hand, they were to hazard situations of considerable profit for an object which might prove unattainable, even after their fullest success, in influencing the Nawaub Vizier's mind. In this argument I put aside the weight due to their personal characters. At the same time I should remark, that could only be done for the purpose of exposing more distinctly the absence of likelihood in the imputation against them; because on any other principle, their untainted integrity would be forcibly pleadable against a loose accusation. Still this accusation has been made; therefore it is necessary to account for it.

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It is to me perfectly clear, that the Nawaub Vizier has had floating dissatisfactions against Major Baillie. I myself have witnessed in the latter towards the Nawaub Vizier little points of behaviour which could not but wound his Excellency. When the Resident, who had received checks from me by letter on that very head, could not avoid sliding into the error while I was present, it must be imagined that at other times he has been still less measured in his deportment. The being exhibited to by-standers as in a state of tutelage, has, I suspect, given the Nawaub Vizier a degree of irritation, which clouded the recollection of those essential services rendered to him by Major Baillie. With these feelings he has expressed his impatience to those around him, and probably declared his wish to get rid of the present Resident. It was the interest of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, who knew that Major Baillie regarded him hostilely, to inflame the Nawaub Vizier's discontent, and to advise his Excellency's endeavouring to secure the testimonies of Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Law, as to the validity of his grievances, in case his Excellency's representation should lead me to institute any inquiry: hence arose those spontaneous complaints of his Excellency to those gentlemen, which unavoidably implicated them, to a certain degree, in his views. It is very probable that the Hukeem, in order to excite his master to lay the case before me, represented those gentlemen as concurring more actively with his Excellency than it ever was in their contemplation to do; and I suspect that the Nawaub Vizier has confounded some statement of that sort, or some assurances of the Hukeem, in such a manner as to persuade himself he had received them directly from the gentlemen in question. I ground this belief on my observation of the conduct of the respective parties. In the procedure of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, I see nothing but their persuasion that they were fulfilling their duty, not to the Nawaub Vizier but to me, in facilitating the personal appeal of his Excellency to the Governor-General, in a case which could not pass through the Resident, because it was a charge against that individual. Not either of those gentlemen ever attempted an insinuation against Major Baillie, or endeavoured to uphold what they quoted as the Nawaub's language by any invidious construction. With Mr. Law or Mr. De L'Etang I never had the slightest communication on the subject: on the other hand, the assertion of the Nawaub Vizier, that he acted contrary to his own disposition at the instigation of the two first gentlemen is obviously incorrect. In the first place, had he believed that the criminating Major Baillie would be agreeable to me, he would have taken the step roundly: on the contrary, it was clear that there was something on his mind which he feared to bring out in his interviews with me, probably from his supposition that the Secretaries were favourable to Major Baillie; but beyond this there is presumptive evidence of no ordinary force. What could be his motive for seeking the conversation with Captain Gilbert, not improving a casual opportunity for it, but making it matter of appointment. Had he been acting contrary to his private inclination in bringing forward complaints against Major Baillie, he would have thought that he did enough to secure my good-will by the sort of demi-official representation which he had advanced. Captain Gilbert had been known to him of old; but it could not be either that degree of acquaintance, or his knowledge of Captain Gilbert's possession of the language, which should lead to make so peculiar a communication so deliberately. What could he have

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in view, but the speculation that Captain Gilbert, from his having married a near relation of Lady Loudon's, was a good channel to my ear: and he it remarked, that a private and indirect representation of that kind was not of a quality to answer my imagined wish of having ostensible ground for removing Major Baillie from his station. It is further observable, that on the night when we took our leave, the Nawaub Vizier went up to Captain Gilbert, and taking the hand of the latter placed it on his (the Nawaub's) breast, saying with a look of uncommon distress, "whatsoever has happened do not think I have cast off your friendship: I hope to prove it to you in happier times." Why was not the present moment happy, when he had obtained a security for his dignity, his internal independence, and his comfort, beyond what his fondest hope could have expected? It requires very little perspicacity to see that the intrigue of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan was overset by some other intrigue, in which a more efficacious influence was employed; that a branch of the practice on the mind of the Nawaub Vizier was the recalling him to a sense of the obligations under which he lay to Major Baillie, contrasting their magnitude with the frivolity of what his Excellency urged as grievances; and that his Excellency, to extricate himself from the embarrassment, threw upon the shoulders of others the burden which belonged only to his own. The reward of success in this intrigue was the raising to the situation of Minister Agha Meer, a low man who had waited behind the Nawaub's son at my table at Cawnpore, and whose name had never been mentioned in the list of persons eligible for such an appointment in any of the frequent previous discussions. The issue of the intrigue was none of my business. I had only to accept the Nawaub Vizier's own statements, and to concur in what he chose to say was his wish. It was solely incumbent on me not to let the European gentlemen labour under an imputation, which I conscientiously believe they have in no shape merited. The laxity with which the accusation was hazarded cannot be estimated better than by the following fact. Mr. De L'Etang was charged by the Nawaub Vizier with having acted in concert with Captain McLeod, Mr. Law, and Mr. Clarke, in this conspiracy. Each of those gentlemen has declared in the most solemn manner, that he never conversed with Mr. De L'Etang on the subject, or was aware that Mr. De L'Etang was privy to it. I mentioned this to Major Baillie, who answered that he believed their assertion to be strictly true; adding, "I believe the Nawaub has been sorry to have incurred the expense of inviting Mr. De L'Etang into his service, and lays hold of this excuse to get rid of him." The circumstance affords an impressive comment on the rest of the transaction.

The last conference which I had with the Vizier was on the evening of the 10th of November, and the substance of it is fully detailed in my answer dated 12th November to the Vizier's paper marked No. 32.

It will be perceived from some expressions in the above detail, that I was not altogether satisfied with Major Baillie. There certainly were particulars which I found reason to censure, and others on which I suspected disapprobation ought to rest. I had, however, in candour to make allowance for the position of estrangement with the late Nawaub Vizier into which Major Baillie had naturally slid, through his efforts to carry points unpalatable to the Nawaub under the injunction of Government, and I had to regard as almost unavoidable the little effusions of spleen which sometimes tinged their intercourse. Nor was it to be too rigidly condemned, if Major Baillie, on the accession of the new Nawaub, trespassed beyond due discretion on the gratitude which he supposed himself to have excited, and inconsiderately allowed some of his own special followers to accept service with his Excellency on excessive salaries. Major Baillie has solemnly denied that he in any manner influenced the Vizier in the choice of the sons of Mirza Jäfer for offices in his Excellency's household, and I of course give full credit to the assertion: but I feel persuaded that they were alone selected under a belief that their employment would gratify Major Baillie, and that they were subsequently retained under an apprehension that their discharge would excite his displeasure. Although I admit, therefore, that Major Baillie did not employ any active influence to prevail on the Vizier to provide for those persons, still adverting to the actual time and circumstances of the transaction and to the plain and obvious motive of the measure on the part of the

the Vizier, the effects of it on his mind were the same as if Major Baillie had actually urged him to appoint them. On the other hand was to be set off the meritorious zeal of Major Baillie in prosecuting the objects of Government, and the consideration that his removal would imply an unlimited extent of dissatisfaction. Strict instructions barred his future aberrations, and the Nawaub Vizier had to be so gratified with the written answer to his requests, the purport of which I intimated to him on our parting interview, that I could then justly require he should support his professions in favour of Major Baillie by manifesting to that gentleman thorough reliance.

30th November 1814.

(Signed) MOIRA.

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From His Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received 10th December 1814.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

After expressing to your Excellency my earnest desire for the happiness of a personal meeting, which is the chief wish of my heart, I proceed to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter, enclosing a paper of answers to my propositions under your seal and signature, the perusal of the gracious contents of which afforded me satisfaction and delight. May the Almighty ever preserve your Lordship with this kind disposition on the seat of dignity and power, for in that I contemplate the stability of my affairs. Your Lordship has written that I should either adopt the plan of reform suggested by the British Government, or communicate to your Lordship without delay any other plan which I may myself have to propose. Postponing my answers to the other points discussed in your Lordship's paper, together with the observations with which I consider it to be necessary to accompany them to a future opportunity, I shall content myself on the present occasion with stating to your Lordship that I accept the plan proposed by the British Government with pleasure and sincerity of heart. I have accordingly directed the respectable Moatumud-ood-Dowlah Syud Mohummud Khan (Agha Meer) and Rajah Dya-Krishen to carry the plan into effect, with the advice and assistance of Major Baillie, instructing them to inform themselves of all the details of the plan from him, and to introduce the new system without delay. Those Ministers will execute my orders, and your Lordship's plan will be carried into effect with the utmost practicable expedition. I request your Excellency to be perfectly at ease on this point. My answers to the other points, and the observations which I may have to make on the subject of them, will be communicated to your Lordship hereafter.

A true translation :

(Signed) G. SWINTON,
Persian Secretary to the Governor-General.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 9 of the 6th instant,* and to communicate to you the following observations in reply.

2. The unqualified acquiescence of the Vizier in the plan of reform submitted to his father by the British Government, and his promise that it shall be carried into effect without delay, is highly gratifying to the Governor-General, and his Lordship concludes that you will have taken the proper steps, in concert with his Excellency's Government, to renew the measures which were formerly in progress. It is superfluous to repeat the injunctions which I have already had occasion to convey to you, by order of the Governor-General, on this subject.

3. The Governor-General purposes to reply in the terms of the enclosed draft to the letter from his Excellency the Vizier, announcing his acquiescence in the reform, and his Lordship's letter will be transmitted to you by the Persian Secretary.

4. The measure adopted by his Excellency, relative to the police of the Honourable Company's districts adjoining the frontiers of Oude, is also highly satisfactory to his Lordship, who approves entirely the tenor of the orders to the Vizier's officers, drawn by you at his Excellency's request, and trusts that the measure

* Vide pages 931 to 934.

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from Secretary to
Government.

measure now adopted will be so effectual as to preclude the necessity of resorting to others.

5. The fifth and sixth paragraphs of your despatch require no particular remark.

6. His Lordship suspends any observations or instructions relative to the case of Rumzaun Alee Khan, until he shall receive the letter which his Excellency the Vizier states it to be his intention to address to him on the subject. The tenor of your discourse on this point to Agha Meer is approved by his Lordship.

7. Your report relative to the general conduct of the Ministers is very satisfactory, and you are at liberty to assure them that while they conduct themselves in a manner befitting their relation to their own Sovereign and to the British Government and its representatives, they will always receive the countenance and support of the Governor-General. His Excellency participates in the regret expressed by you that the Ministers are exposed to counteraction from the subordinate officers and Moonshes. His Lordship will approve of your taking every favourable opportunity of pointing out to the Vizier the importance of giving to the Ministers the requisite control and authority over all the subordinate officers of the Government, to enable them to execute the functions of their office to which they are responsible. His Lordship relies on your executing this task in a manner which shall not occasion dissatisfaction in the mind of the Vizier, and render his Ministers the objects of his jealousy and dislike.

8. It is considered by his Lordship to be very desirable that the salaries and appointments of the Ministers should be placed on a respectable and even liberal footing. The Governor-General is not prepared to state an opinion respecting the quantum of allowance which it may be proper to assign to the Paishcar and Dewan respectively, but his Lordship authorizes you to bring the subject generally under the consideration of the Vizier, as a question of some importance to the dignity and respectability of his Government.

9. The contents of paragraphs 10 to 13 inclusive do not require any particular observation. Your conduct with respect to the Nawab's brother Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, is prudent and judicious; and a similar proceeding in other cases of the kind must ultimately satisfy his Excellency, that no such disposition to support his brothers against his authority exists in the mind of the Governor-General, as he seems to infer from the tenor of the observations respecting them in his Lordship's reply to the Vizier's paper.

10. The Governor-General is happy to learn the cordiality which subsists between his Excellency the Vizier and you; and he trusts that, by a judicious improvement of that favourable temper, you will secure the confidence of his Excellency in such a manner, as to ensure his willing and unreserved resort to your advice and support on all occasions of difficulty and importance.

I have, &c.

Camp, Seharunpore,
29th December 1814.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 29th December 1814.)

I have been gratified by the receipt of your Excellency's friendly letter, in which you are pleased to express your satisfaction at the tenor of my written reply to the paper delivered to me by your Excellency at Lucknow, and, postponing the discussion of the other subjects adverted to in my reply, are pleased to express your entire concurrence and acquiescence in the plan of reform recommended by the British Government, and your resolution to carry it into immediate effect with the advice and assistance of Major Baillie.

This information has afforded me a degree of pleasure proportioned to the firmness of my conviction of the eminent advantage to your Excellency's interests, which the plan in question is calculated to produce. You may rely on the zealous and earnest endeavours of Major Baillie to give effect to a plan, the adoption

adoption of which is so worthy of your Excellency's wisdom, and of your enlightened regard for the welfare and happiness of your people.

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I earnestly exhort your Excellency to persevere to the completion of this important work.

A true copy:

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

List of Enclosures in a Letter from the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

Enclosures.

Enclosures in a Letter to his Excellency the Vice-President in Council from the Right Honourable the Governor-General, dated 29th December 1814:

A. Copy of a Translation of a Letter from the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, received 3d November 1814.

B. Ditto ditto to ditto, written 9th November 1814.

C. Copy of a Letter to the Agent of the Governor-General at Benares, dated 11th November 1814.

D. Ditto of Letters to the Magistrate of Jounpore and Elahabad, dated 11th November 1814.

E. Ditto of ditto to Resident at Lucknow, dated 11th November.

F. Ditto of a Translation of a Paper delivered to the Governor-General by the Nawaub Shums-ood-Dowlah, 11th October 1814.

No. 1. Ditto of a Translation of a Paper No. 1, delivered to the Governor-General by the Nawaub Vizier, 13th October 1814.

2. Copy of a Translation of a Paper No. 2, delivered to the Governor-General by the Nawaub Vizier, 26th October 1814.

3. Mr. Ricketts' Report of his Conference with the Vizier.

4. Copy of a Translation of a Paper No. 3, delivered to Mr. Ricketts by his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, 31st October 1814.

5. Copy of a Translation of a Paper No. 4, delivered by his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier to the Governor-General, at a Conference held on the evening of the 31st October 1814.

6. Report of a Message from the Vizier to Mr. Swinton and Mr. Adam, delivered by Agha Meer.

7. Report of a Conference held by Mr. Swinton and Mr. Adam with the Vizier, at his Excellency's request, 2d November 1814.

8. Copy of a Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, received 2d November 1814.

9. Instructions from the Right Honourable the Governor-General to Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, dated 3d November 1814.

10. Report of a Conference held by Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton, with his Excellency the Vizier, on the 4th November 1814.

11. Copy of a Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, received 4th November 1814.

12. Ditto ditto ditto, dated 7th ditto.

13. Ditto ditto to ditto, written 8th November 1814.

14. Ditto of Letters to Captain McLeod, J. Law, Esq., and M. De L'Etang, dated 8th November 1814.

15. Ditto of Substance of a Communication from his Excellency the Vizier to the Governor-General.

16. Ditto of a Letter to J. H. Clarke, Esq., dated 8th November 1814.

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Enclosures.

17. Copy of a Letter from Captain McLeod, dated 9th November 1814.
18. Ditto of a ditto from J. H. Clarke, Esq., dated ditto ditto.
19. Ditto of a ditto from J. Law, Esq., dated 10th ditto.
20. Ditto of a ditto from M. De L'Etang, dated 8th ditto.
21. Major Baillie's Memorandum, dated 9th November 1814.
22. Captain McLeod's ditto
23. Major Baillie's ditto, dated 11th November.
24. Copy of a Letter to Captain McLeod, dated 12th ditto.
25. Ditto of a ditto to J. H. Clarke, Esq., ditto ditto.
26. Ditto of a ditto to J. Law, Esq., ditto ditto.
27. Ditto of a ditto to M. De L'Etang, ditto ditto.
28. Ditto of a ditto to Major Baillie, ditto ditto.
29. Ditto of a Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, received 9th November.
30. Ditto of a ditto of a Paper enclosed in the foregoing Letter.
31. Ditto of a Letter to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier written 12th November 1814.
32. Copy of the Vizier's Propositions, with the Governor-General's Answer, dated 12th November.
33. Ditto of instructions to Major Baillie, dated 12th November.
34. Paper of Observations by the Right Honourable the Governor-General, stating clearly his Excellency's views of the extraordinary transactions to which they relate.
35. Copy of a Translation of a Letter from his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, received 10th December.
36. Ditto of a Letter to the Resident at Lucknow, dated 29th December.
37. Ditto of a Letter to his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier, written 29th December.
38. List.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Ordered, That the following despatch from Mr. Secretary Adam be here recorded.

Letter from
Secretary
to Government.

To J. Monckton, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government in the Political Department.

Sir :

I am directed to transmit to you, for the information of the Honourable the Vice-President in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter addressed this day, under the authority of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, to the Resident at Lucknow.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nureela,
26th January 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To

To J. Baillie, Esq. Resident at Lucknow.

Sir :

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Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

1. The Governor-General deeming it to be proper that copies of all the documents relating to his Excellency's proceedings at the Court of Lucknow should be recorded in the office of the Resident, I am instructed to transmit to you the copies specified in the enclosed list, omitting only those of which copies are already in your possession.

2. The contents of the papers themselves are for the most part already known to you from the personal communications held with you at Lucknow, and together with the observations contained in the papers recorded by the Governor-General, render any additional remarks on the subject unnecessary in this place.

3. In communicating these documents, however, the Governor-General directs me to observe, that whatever view he took of those parts of your proceedings which have formed the subject of remark, he was always impressed with the fullest conviction of your zeal for the honour and interests of the Government and for the welfare of the Vizier, as well as of the talents and industry with which you pursued those objects. The Governor-General retains the firmest persuasion that your future conduct will be no less governed by those principles, while he trusts that a strict adherence to those rules which have been prescribed for the regulation of your intercourse with the Vizier, will effectually preclude the recurrence of such feelings as those in which the transactions adverted to in the accompanying papers originated.

I have, &c.

Camp, Nureela,
26th January 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To his Excellency the Honourable Sir G. Nugent, Bart., K.B., Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

Honourable Sir :

I have the honour of transmitting, for your Excellency in Council's information, the enclosed duplicate of a despatch, which I have this day addressed to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

I have, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
6th December 1814.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To his Excellency the Right Honourable Francis Earl of Moira, K.G., Governor-General, &c. &c. &c.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

My Lord :

1. Your Lordship's original letter to the address of his Excellency the Vizier, containing your Lordship's answers to the Vizier's paper of requests was received from the Persian Secretary on the 30th ultimo, and I had the honour of presenting it to the Vizier on the morning of the 3d instant.

2. His Excellency desired me to read and explain to him in their order the answers to his several requests, and he appeared to be perfectly satisfied with the tenor of all the answers.

3. With a reference to the second, third, and fourth articles, his Excellency assured me repeatedly that the plan of a reform of his administration in the departments of revenue and police, which had been recommended by the British Government to his father, was the best in his own estimation, had his cheerful and cordial concurrence, and should be carried into effect without delay. With regard to the police of the Honourable Company's districts which border on the territory of the Vizier, his Excellency repeated his offer to issue the most positive orders to all the officers of his Government to comply, without a reference to himself, with all applications from our Magistrates and from their subordinate officers, for the seizure of offenders finding refuge in any district of his dominions ; and his Excellency further desired me to prepare and submit to him a draft of the necessary instructions on this subject

4. I have

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Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

4. I have accordingly transmitted to his Excellency a draft of instructions to his officers, which his Excellency has been pleased to approve, and it has since been issued under his seal. A copy of the document in question is submitted for your Lordship's perusal; and in the case of its failure to accomplish the just purposes of our Government, I shall be prepared to submit to the Vizier the ultimate proposition which is suggested in the ninth paragraph of my instructions, and to which, in that case, I should hope that his Excellency will be induced to accede.

5. With the tenor of your Lordship's answers to the fifth, sixth, and seventh articles of requests on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, his Excellency appeared and expressed himself to be highly gratified and pleased. His Excellency added, that the terms of them fulfilled his highest expectations from your Lordship's friendship and regard.

6. The dismissal of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan from the presence and councils of the Vizier, and his departure to the district under his charge, were reported in my despatch of the 29th ultimo. His Excellency the Vizier has since frequently complained to me of the Hukeem's neglect and inattention, and seems now to be as much dissatisfied as he was formerly pleased with the services of this intriguing favourite of his father.

7. With respect to Rumzaun Alee Khan the Vizier did not conceal his disappointment at the extensive purport of the terms in which this person has been recommended to his favour. To the regular payment of the stipend of Rumzaun Alee Khan, at the rate which was formerly fixed for him, his Excellency had no hesitation in repeating his cheerful assent, and the provision which he had recently made for the payment of all the pensions of dependants on the British Government, including Ramzaun Alee Khan, was intended by his Excellency, he observed, to prevent discussions, in future, regarding claims of every description on the part of persons entitled, or who might consider themselves as entitled to the interference of our Government in their behalf: but your Lordship's recommendation of Rumzaun Alee Khan, in the article under discussion, was extended, his Excellency remarked, very far beyond the payment of his stipend, and involved the employment of that person in offices about his Excellency's person, or in his household, for which he could not but deem Rumzaun Alee Khan to be unfit, and in which, as he could never agree to employ him, he did not consider him as entitled to their emoluments, nor to any compensation for those emoluments, which indeed had never been fixed, and it was impossible now to ascertain. His Excellency further observed, that he did not consider the continuance of Rumzaun Alee Khan in employment to form a part of your Lordship's recommendation at the conference of the 10th ultimo; and, under this view of the case, he deemed it necessary, and expressed his resolution to address your Lordship on the subject, in the expectation, from your Lordship's friendship, that the interference of the British Government might be limited to the object of securing the payment of Rumzaun Alee Khan's established allowances.

8. I replied to his Excellency's observations on this article merely in general terms, and we passed on to the remaining points of discussion in the paper under your Lordship's signature and seal.

9. With reference to the conduct of the Ministers recently appointed in carrying on the details of the administration, and particularly the measures of reform, I took advantage of the opportunity afforded by his Excellency's expressing his approbation of those persons to suggest the propriety of their being vested with a greater degree of authority than they appeared to me to possess. The Ministers had frequently complained to me of the inattention of some subordinate officers to their orders, and particularly of an injurious delay in the application of the seals of the Government to the letters, mandates, and passports, which they were in the daily habit of preparing and submitting to his Excellency, and which his Excellency had generally approved in the first instance, though the issue of them had been afterwards prevented or delayed. The Vizier acquiesced in the necessity of supporting and establishing the authority of the Ministers over the Moonshees and all subordinate officers of his Government; but he either did not comprehend, or was not inclined to comply with my hint, that the seals of the Government should be committed to the charge of his Ministers, or that they should have authority for the application of their own. The salaries or emoluments

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ments of the Ministers have not yet been fixed by his Excellency, and as his Excellency has never mentioned the subject to me, I have hitherto thought it my duty to decline a compliance with the repeated solicitations of Agha Meer, that I should bring the question to his Excellency's notice. It is a question, however, of considerable importance in my opinion, and one on which I could wish to be favoured with a communication of your Lordship's sentiments and commands, at as early a period as may be practicable.

10. The Vizier, after hearing with attention your Lordship's observations and assurances on the paper of requests which he delivered to your Lordship at Cawnpore, and had subsequently recalled at this station, expressed and seemed to feel some regret, that a few of those remarks had been recorded. With a reference to the two first, he declared that they were highly gratifying to his mind, and demonstrative of the cordial friendship and regard which your Lordship had uniformly professed for him. With particular reference to your Lordship's remark on the subject of the dismissal of such of his Excellency's domestic servants as were obnoxious to him, I thought it my duty to enquire if his Excellency meant to dismiss the four sons of Mirza Jäfer, whose original introduction into his service, though a spontaneous act of his own, and totally uninfluenced by my suggestion, had, I understood, been ascribed to my advice, and whose allowances, as recently reported to me, were such as I could never have approved. His Excellency replied to my inquiry, that three of the sons of Mirza Jäfer were actually discharged from his service, but that he wished to retain Mirza Alee, on a salary inferior to that which had been formerly talked of among his servants, and probably reported to me.

11. On perusing the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth observations of your Lordship's paper of remarks on the retracted requests of the Vizier, which relate to the condition and allowances of his Excellency's younger brothers, I perceived, or thought that I perceived, some signs of disquiet in his mind; and his Excellency convinced me that I was right, by expressing his uneasiness on the subject. He observed, that your Lordship's remarks seemed to him to imply a desire on the part of your Lordship, tantamount to an obligation on his own part, for the continuance of all the provisions to his younger brothers on the scale which had been recently fixed by their father, and which his Excellency could not help considering as unnecessarily large. He did not, however, announce to me the resolution, nor do I infer from what passed that he entertains the design, of reducing the allowances of any of his brothers for the present. What appeared to disturb his Excellency was the idea of his being bound, or considered by your Lordship to be bound, to continue those allowances without deduction, and the consequent fear of the diminution of his power and authority over his brothers.

12. Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, in particular, I apprehend has become the object of his Excellency's displeasure; for I have had a number of letters and verbal applications from Nuseer-ood-Dowlah of late, and though I have taken every practicable step to discourage those applications in future, by referring them without remark to the Vizier, and informing the brother that I had done so, I have not yet succeeded to my wish in convincing Nuseer-ood-Dowlah of my determination to avoid interfering in his behalf, and of the necessity of his paying implicit submission to the will of his brother and Sovereign.

13. Shums-ood-Dowlah's departure to Benares has been already reported to your Lordship. The Vizier has promised to refund the arrears of his brother's allowance which were issued from my treasury. But his Excellency's conduct to Shums-ood-Dowlah in other respects, and particularly the measure of taking possession of his late dwelling-house on the morning after his departure, has not been such as I could approve. The question of calling Shums-ood-Dowlah to an account for the sums deposited with him by his father, is of course totally at rest by the departure of Shums-ood-Dowlah for Benares; but with a reference to Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, and the khass muhl, the Vizier seemed to me to regret the introduction of your Lordship's remarks on the inexpedience or impracticability of resuming from them the amount of the sums deposited by his father. At the same time, I do not apprehend that his Excellency will adopt any measures of rigour or harshness for the recovery of the monies in question. An apparently cordial reconciliation has been recently brought about by the Minister, Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, between the Vizier and his stepmother and her son.

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

14. On your Lordship's remaining observations the remarks of his Excellency the Vizier were demonstrative of entire satisfaction. He alluded to the observation respecting personal intercourse between himself and the Resident in terms of extraordinary friendship for me, and entreated most earnestly and repeatedly that I would not consider his former expressions on this subject as referring, in the remotest degree, to the frequency of my visits, which had ever been a source of the highest gratification, as well as of confidence to his mind, and which he begged might never suffer diminution. He then entered into a profusion of protestations of his innocence with a reference to the contents of a paper, which he trusted that I had not seen and would blot from my memory for ever. I replied in appropriate terms, and in a manner calculated to impress his Excellency with a belief that I had never seen, or had ceased entirely to think of, the paper to which he referred, and of all occurrences connected with it. Our conference of the 3d instant broke up with reciprocal assurances of friendship, and with a promise on the part of his Excellency that the reform should recommence without delay.

15. Towards the evening of the day of our conference I had a message from his Excellency by his Minister, descriptive of the increased uneasiness and concern which he had felt on a more attentive perusal of the observations in the paper delivered to him, having reference to Rumzaun Alee Khan and to the stipends of his younger brothers. The Minister was instructed to announce to me his Excellency's intention of preparing a letter to your Lordship's address on those subjects, and to solicit my advice and assistance in framing the letter to your Lordship, as well as my good offices to obtain for it your Lordship's favourable consideration and an early and satisfactory reply.

16. I explained to Agha Meer without reserve, and I desired him to state to his Excellency, the high sense which I entertained of the service rendered by Rumzaun Alee Khan to our Government, as well as to the Vizier, on the night of the demise of his father, in communicating that event immediately to me, and concealing it from every other person till my arrival at the palace. I added my conviction, that your Lordship's recommendation of Rumzaun Alee Khan, as conveyed by the terms of the paper under your Lordship's signature and seal, must have proceeded on a due consideration of the merits of the person recommended, and of the just claims which he possessed to his Excellency's favour and kindness. That if Rumzaun Alee Khan held no office of emolument, nor any allowance beyond his pension at the period of the Vizier's accession to the musnud, the terms of your Lordship's recommendation ought not to give uneasiness to his Excellency, since he might be assured that neither your Lordship nor I would ever be disposed to countenance or give encouragement to unreasonable pretensions on the part of any of his Excellency's servants, and far less to require their employment or continuance in office contrary to his Excellency's desire. Under all the circumstances of the case, I advised the minister to dissuade his Excellency, if possible, from addressing your Lordship on this subject, and at all events to exclude the discussion of this question from his Excellency's first letter to your Lordship, which it seemed indispensable to transmit without delay, for the purpose of satisfying your Lordship with a reference to the question of reform.

17. The Minister seemed to feel the propriety of my remarks, and promised to use his best endeavours to obtain from the Vizier, without delay, a distinct declaration of his acquiescence in the system of reform which had been recommended by our Government to his father, and had commenced on his accession to the musnud. The success of Agha Meer's representations was demonstrated yesterday, by my receipt of a letter from his Excellency to your Lordship, expressive of his unqualified assent to the reform, and his resolution to carry it into effect with my advice and concurrence.

18. I shall forward his Excellency's letter to your Lordship's Persian Secretary by the mail of this evening; and I have the honour to be, &c.

Lucknow Residency,
6th December 1814.

(Signed)

J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

Instructions

Instructions to Zillahdars, Ameens, &c., on the Frontier.

Whereas the relations of friendship and amity between the Honourable Company's Government and this are established in such a degree, that the enemies of either Government, and all public offenders against either, are alike the enemies of both; and the seizure and punishment of such offenders alike the interest of both; and it being understood by the Presence, that notwithstanding repeated and most positive injunctions to the contrary, a number of fugitives and outlaws from the British territory, finding refuge and protection in this country, commit outrages and depredations in the Honourable Company's districts, and when pursued evade the punishment of their crimes by being protected by the Zemindars in my country, and notwithstanding the instructions which were issued on the 20th of February 1813, authorizing all commanding-officers of British troops stationed in the frontier districts of the territory of the Presence, on their receiving authentic intelligence from the Magistrates of contiguous districts in the British dominions of the concealment of a rebel, marauder, or other public offender, in any village or place in the vicinity of the station which they command, to march promptly and suddenly, without previous communication, with any one, to the place of the delinquent's concealment, and seize and secure his person, still none of the measures above specified have had hitherto the effect which was desired. Therefore, and in consideration of the firm friendship and unity subsisting between the two States, it is now determined and agreed to, and you are most strictly enjoined, that whenever a magistrate, collector, or subordinate officer of Police of any of the frontier districts in the Honourable Company's territory, shall hereafter make application to you for the seizure of any offender, or shall send a person or party to your Elaka to point out and seize a delinquent, you do, immediately on receiving such application from the magistrate, collector, or Thannadar, or on the arrival of a person or persons to point out and seize the offender, without awaiting the orders of the Government or making any reference to the Presence, seize and deliver over the offender to the magistrate or other officer who may require him, and that, on no account, you molest or impede the persons who may be sent, in their endeavours to apprehend offenders.

Considering these as the positive orders of the Presence, pay implicit obedience to the same.

A true translation:

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To the Honourable N. B. Edmonstone, Vice-President in Council, &c. &c. &c.
Honourable Sir:

I have the honour of transmitting, for your information, a duplicate of a letter which I have addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department, in answer to that officer's despatch* of the 26th of January last.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
2d March 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

To J. Adam, Esq Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.
Sir:

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 26th ultimo, received on the 13th instant, containing copies of documents relating to the proceedings of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General at Lucknow, and conveying his Lordship's command that those documents be recorded in this office.

2. The contents of a number of the papers which I have now had the honour of receiving were either totally unknown to me, or had been very cursorily perused during his Lordship's stay at this capital; and you are aware that the time which was afforded to me for the perusal of any of the documents having reference to my own proceedings, or to the retracted complaints of the Vizier, was by far too short to admit of my submitting those remarks on the subject of them, which their nature suggested to my mind.

3. Under

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from Resident at
Lucknow.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

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3. Under these circumstances, I propose, with the sanction of the Right Honourable the Governor-General, as indeed I consider it to be my duty, to submit for his Lordship's consideration at some future period of leisure, a statement of circumstances and facts, which appear to my judgment to be calculated to exhibit the recent transactions at Lucknow in a different point of view from that which his Lordship has taken of them in his Minute of the 30th of November last.*

Lucknow,
28th February 1815.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

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8 Nov. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

Dated 3d November 1815.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department.

Sir:

1. In pursuance of the intention announced to you by my letter of the 28th February last, I proceed to submit for consideration such remarks as appear to be calculated to exhibit in a correct point of view, the extraordinary transactions which took place during the Governor-General's personal intercourse with the Vizier at Cawnpore, and in his Excellency's capital. For this purpose, it is indispensable that I recall to particular notice some facts and circumstances, having reference to periods considerably more remote than any that are mentioned in the documents which relate to the recent transactions.

2. It is known to all the Members of the Government, and established by proofs upon record, that for a period of more than three years after my arrival at the Court of Lucknow, the greatest cordiality subsisted between the late Vizier and myself, and that his Excellency demonstrated his regard for me by a number of friendly observances, unprecedented with regard to any of my predecessors in office, more especially by a public entertainment, extensive illuminations and fireworks, and a liberal donation to my physician, on the occasion of my recovery from an illness in the beginning of the year 1808. His Excellency is known to have observed to several persons of his Court, with a reference to my language and deportment, that I was the only Englishman he had known, with the exception of one, now a member of the Supreme Council, who could address a native of rank, and could reason with or write to him on subjects on which they differed in opinion, without forgetting, or appearing to forget, those expressions and observances of respect, that inanner of kindness and conciliation, so peculiarly gratifying to natives, and which his Excellency felt and appreciated in a very remarkable degree.

3. This perfect cordialty, which had subsisted between the late Vizier and myself, began to suffer some interruption from discussions which I was instructed to hold with him on the subject of a reform in his Government towards the end of the year 1810. The reform was however agreed to, with seeming cordiality on his part, after a long and most arduous discussion, in the month of April 1811,† when his Excellency, attended by me, proceeded on a hunting excursion.

4. Shortly after our departure from the capital, and before any of the measures of reform which his Excellency had solemnly agreed to could be carried into effect as intended, his Excellency was unfortunately joined by his Aumil of Khyrabad and Mohumdie, Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, the undoubted and unquestionable source of every untoward occurrence that has since taken place at Lucknow. I shall not suspend my narration by describing the character of Hukeem Mehdee. I believe it to be intrinsically bad; and I have had reason to suspect the Hukeem of disaffection to the interests of our Government, not only from a retrospect of his proceedings, as recorded by my predecessor in office, but also from a number of circumstances that have fallen under my own observation,

as

* Vide page 919.

† See despatch to the Chief Secretary, of 8th April 1811, page 153.

as well with a reference to the reform, as to other points of subordinate moment which have been agitated between the two States during the period of my residence at this Court. That the late Vizier was himself disinclined to a reform of his Government, more particularly in the revenue branch of it, as hostile to arbitrary taxation and destructive of his avaricious views, is in my opinion not to be questioned; but his Excellency was perfectly aware of the just and irrefragable nature of the grounds on which a reform of his administration was recommended to him by the British Government, in its legitimate character of his adviser, and his knowledge of general policy was too limited, his acquaintance with revenue matters too confined, to admit of his opposing with success, or even with specious objections, the arguments in favour of a reform which I was instructed to use to him.

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from Resident at
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5. The versatile talents, intriguing disposition, and acknowledged ability as a revenue officer of Hukeem Mehdee, peculiarly qualified him for the situation of adviser and assistant to the Vizier, in his object of frustrating or impeding the just views of our Government by clandestine or underhand means, after he had failed in opposing them by argument. Among the first of Hukeem Mehdee's devices to frustrate the views of our Government was an attempt to excite personal enmity on the part of the Vizier towards me, by impressing his Excellency with a belief that the reform of his Government was an object exclusively my own, with the view of increasing my influence and establishing my reputation in Oude, to the prejudice of his Excellency's authority as well as to his personal loss; that the Government had supported my measures to a certain extent from the urgency of my representations, but would soon relax in its support if his Excellency persisted in his opposition; and that ultimately my removal from office, as the consequence either of my failure to accomplish the object in view, or of his Excellency's personal dislike to me, would relieve him entirely from the unpleasant discussion of reform, and establish his independent authority on a basis that could never be shaken by any future Resident at his Court, since the instance of my removal would deter future Residents from opposing him.

6. Of the means of success to this device, the most natural to be pursued by Hukeem Mehdee was that of opening, or attempting to open, an indirect communication with some of the members or officers of our Government, and of obtaining or fabricating intelligence from Calcutta which might facilitate his practices on the Vizier.* A relaxation on the part of the Government, in its pursuit of the objects of reform, during the absence of Lord Minto from the Presidency, afforded some facilities to Hukeem Mehdee in the successful prosecution of his design.

7. Captain McLeod arrived at Lucknow in the month of March or April 1811; and a fact occurs to me to be stated with a reference to that gentleman, which is doubtless in his perfect recollection. Hukeem Mehdee was reported to me to have opened a negotiation with Captain McLeod, through the medium of his Bengalee Sirkar, whom the Hukeem entertained, or proposed to entertain in his service, for the purpose of teaching him English, and some presents of inconsiderable value were brought to Captain McLeod by his Sirkar, as received through Hukeem Mehdee from the Vizier. I cannot with confidence assert, whether the first communication on this subject was made by me to Captain McLeod, or by that gentleman to me. An intimacy, almost fraternal, had subsisted between Captain McLeod and myself, from the period of his arrival in India. He was invited to come to my house at Lucknow on the footing of a member of my family, and appeared to consider himself as such. I should naturally have expected, and may have received from Captain McLeod the communication which is here referred to, or I may have made it to him in the first instance; but I recollect that the communication was followed by a great deal of friendly advice upon my part, which he professed to receive with gratitude and promised implicitly to follow. I warned him of the danger of even a seeming departure from the positive orders of the Government, which prohibit all intercourse or conversation of a political nature between Native Princes, or their dependants and the subjects of the British Government,

* See despatches to and from the Chief Secretary, of July, August, and September 1811.

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Lucknow.

Government, with the exception of the Resident alone. I particularly cautioned him against Hukeem Mehdee, as a person of an intriguing disposition and the established enemy of our Government, and I concluded with suggesting, as a friend, the immediate suspension of all intercourse between Captain McLeod or his Sirkar and the Hukeem. Captain McLeod, I have reason to believe, complied with my advice on that occasion, and his Sirkar was soon after discharged.

8. It is not my intention, at present, to draw any inference from the fact which is above correctly related to the best of my recollection and belief, with a reference to Captain McLeod: yet it seems, in some measure, to give a key to the subsequent proceedings of that gentleman as distinctly related by himself, and is therefore deserving of notice.

9. Some native agents in Calcutta, employed by the Vizier or Hukeem Mehdee, were detected by me about the time of the occurrence above noticed; and Lord Minto's return to Fort-William shortly after, induced a revival of the question of reform at this Court,* with increased support to my proceedings and to the influence of my representative character.

10. The progress of the discussion respecting reform, though revived and conducted with zeal shortly after the return of Lord Minto, continued to meet with opposition on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, under the influence of the counsels of Hukeem Mehdee, and to be interrupted by a number of vexatious minor discussions arising from his Excellency's disposition to oppress the dependants of our Government. Of these latter, the encroachments of his Excellency on the guaranteed rights of the Bhow Begum, his oppression of her Highness's dependants and the dependants of Almass Alee Khan, his unnatural conduct to the younger Begum who retired from his territory to Elahabad, his support of the elder son of Hyder Beg Khan in his violation of the rights of the younger, whose cause had been espoused by our Government originally, in compliance with his Excellency's requests, his manifest injustice to Alee Nuckee Khan, the head Moonshee of this Residency, and some other subordinate questions, had of necessity occasioned remonstrance on the part of the Government and its representative, which afforded a pretext to his Excellency for withholding his attention from the reform, and gave rise to a spirit of personal animosity towards me, manifested by indiscriminate and perverse opposition to every suggestion which I offered, and indulged with the view as I believe, under the pernicious counsels of Hukeem Mehdee, of provoking me to personal disrespect, which might be used as a handle for my removal.

11. My official despatches to Lord Minto, and my private and official letters to the Chief Secretary to Government and yourself, during the whole of the year 1812, and a part of the ensuing year, illustrate the remarks which I have offered, and served to establish the inference that I have drawn from them, to the satisfaction of the Governor-General in Council,† whose honourable confidence and support enabled me ultimately to triumph in the cause of justice and truth, in vindication of the Honourable Company's rights and of the honour and interests of the British nation in India, over his Excellency the Vizier and his advisers; nay, further, to satisfy the Vizier of the honour and integrity of my intentions, of my genuine regard for the true interests of his Government, and of my cordial friendship for himself, which he acknowledged in a manner the most solemn, before all the natives and English gentlemen of his Court, and confirmed by an affectionate embrace in the presence of all his courtiers, on the 2d of October 1813.‡

12. This apparent cordiality re-established between the late Vizier and myself, though unhappily but of short duration, was productive of some beneficial effects at the time, and bade fair for the happy accomplishment of a reform in the Government

* See despatches from the Political Department, of 20th March, 8th May, and 25th of June 1812, pages 268, 282 and 298.

† Despatches from the Political Department, of 22d and 29th January, 5th and 26th March 1813, vide pages 346, 354, 381 and 395.

‡ See despatch of 2d October 1813 to the Governor-General in Council, page 540.

Government of Oude, which would have transmitted the name of Saadut Alee, with the love and gratitude of his people, to many succeeding ages. Hukeem Mehdee, the enemy of reform, had been banished from his Excellency's councils, had been treated as an enemy and a traitor, had on several occasions suffered personal chastisement and disgrace, and his sentence of banishment from Lucknow had been passed as a natural and necessary consequence of his Excellency's reconciliation with me, and of the adjustment of all disputes between him and the British Government.

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13. The arrival of a new Governor-General and retirement of Lord Minto from the Government took place about the date of these occurrences. The effect of an event of this nature on the minds of the natives of India, cannot require to be described to any person conversant with the history of this country or acquainted with the character of the people. No native of India was more disposed than the late Vizier, no person better qualified than Hukeem Mehdee, to take advantage of such an event as this for the promotion of personal interests, the success of sinister designs. I feared, while I recorded in my despatches the unqualified assent of the Vizier to all the propositions of our Government, while I witnessed or heard the disgrace of his Excellency's favourite Hukeem Mehdee, that the approaching change of the Government, though a change of names and not of measures, as I then fondly believed, would produce a retraction of the Vizier's acquiescence in our views, and a return to his Excellency's favour of his perfidious counsellor, Hukeem Mehdee.

14. For the manner in which my fears were realized, for the cause of the Vizier's retraction of all the assurances which he made to me, of the recall of Hukeem Mehdee to his councils, and of a conduct on the part of his Excellency more perverse than he had formerly pursued, I am enabled now to refer to a far more satisfactory explanation than any that I could formerly offer, in the narrative of Captain McLeod.

15. It would seem that this gentleman's first conference, or political conversation with the Vizier must have taken place before the adjustment of the depending questions between the British Government and his Excellency, including his consent to the reform. The state of his Excellency's councils had been fluctuating for a considerable time after his receipt of the last letter from Lord Minto,* in which his Lordship had hinted to the Vizier his intended departure for Europe, and cautioned his Excellency most solemnly against any attempt to take advantage of the contemplated change in the Government, for the purpose of frustrating views which could never be abandoned nor compromised. My illustration of this remark of Lord Minto's was naturally combated by Hukeem Mehdee, and his arguments were supported on the ground of a concession by Lord Cornwallis, in the year 1805, of a very important question relating to the police of the frontier, which had been strenuously urged by Marquess Wellesley; and the character of Lord Moira was represented as resembling that of Lord Cornwallis in a degree, which should inspire the Vizier with a hope of similar results from the accession of the former nobleman to the Government. The friendship and intimacy of Lady Loudon with Captain McLeod's relations at home was frequently talked of at this time, and Captain McLeod had obtained leave of absence from the Vizier to proceed to Calcutta with his children. These circumstances may have naturally led to the conversation which Captain McLeod has related, and the connection of Captain McLeod's deputation by the Vizier with that of a native named Mirza Jāfer by Hukeem Mehdee (which latter I knew and reported to Mr. Edmonstone), and the baneful effects of this combination, unsuspected by me at the time, are now rendered very apparent. Those effects were suspended, however, by the diffidence and timidity of the Vizier's disposition, and by my exertions on the spot, for a period of several months.

16. The reconciliation and adjustment of all differences between his Excellency the Vizier and myself, took place, as already described, on the 2d of October 1813; and his Excellency, when he discarded Hukeem Mehdee,
seemed

* Dated the 2d July 1813, vide page 506.

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seemed to have forgotten his conversation with Captain McLeod, and to have banished from his recollection for ever those vexatious and unhappy discussions, which his former perverseness had occasioned, and which his evil counsellors had encouraged. I have, now a most perfect recollection of his Excellency's having announced to me his intention to recall Mirza Jāfer from Calcutta, and to put an end to all the underhand practices which Hukeem Mehdee had induced him to adopt. That he meant, at the same time, to supersede the instructions which he had given to Captain McLeod, as detailed in that gentleman's narrative, there seems every reason to believe; and most fortunate it would have proved for the comfort of the remaining months of his life, for the interests of the British Government, and for the mental satisfaction of Captain McLeod, whose conduct I must ever deplore, if his Excellency's intention had been fulfilled, or Captain McLeod had relinquished those designs which his conscience must reproach him for entertaining, to the prejudice of the Government which he served, as well as of an individual who had treated him with affection almost fraternal.

17. My official and private despatches of the month of December 1813, and the ensuing January and February, detail the commencement and progress of the Vizier's renewed opposition to the just views of our Government, proceeding in my belief at the time, and as since established beyond a question, on encouragement received from the Presidency, by communications from Captain McLeod or from some native agents in Calcutta. Indeed, the circumstances narrated by Captain McLeod, combined with some extraordinary occurrences which were brought to my knowledge at that time, and are hereafter particularly referred to, and with the statement in one of the papers given in to the Governor-General at Cawnpore, afford so obvious and satisfactory an explanation of the cause of the suspension of the reform by his Excellency the late Vizier, and of his other untoward proceedings, while at the same time they so naturally tend to account for the conduct of the present Vizier, while subject to the influence of Hukeem Mehdee and of that person's European coadjutors, that a mere reference to the statements themselves seems sufficient to convince the most prejudiced of the existence of a diabolical intrigue, the object of which was to frustrate the just views of our Government, by removing from the situation of Resident the instrument of the accomplishment of those views.

18. Captain McLeod has stated, that his first communication with the late Vizier on matters touching his situation with the Resident, or connected with the affairs of his Government, took place in October 1813. I consider the assignment of this date to be unquestionably an error of forgetfulness. Captain McLeod had obtained his leave of absence early in September, and must, I think, have received his instructions, both commercial and diplomatic, from the Vizier, before the 1st of October, or at all events before the adjustment of disputes between his Excellency the Vizier and our Government, which took place on the 2d of that month. Indeed, it is manifestly inconsistent with the occurrences of the 2d of October in public durbar, as reported by my despatch of that date, that a communication of the nature detailed by Captain McLeod should have been made by his Excellency the Vizier immediately after those occurrences, more particularly to a spectator of them like Captain McLeod, whom the inconsistency of his Excellency's conduct must have necessarily deterred from undertaking the duties of a deputation like that described. It is evident, therefore, to my judgment, that Captain McLeod must have taken leave of the Vizier before the 2d of October, or could not have had an interview with his Excellency and received the communication which he describes subsequently to that day.

19. I find in my memorandum of letters despatched by post, a letter addressed to Captain McLeod at Sultanpore on the 8th of October, and another addressed to Jounpore on the 10th of that month; and this circumstance, with an anecdote related by Captain McLeod on his return, has a natural tendency to confirm the foregoing conviction in my mind. The anecdote is as follows: Captain McLeod mentioned at table his having paid his respects to Sir George Nugent on the day of his arrival in Calcutta, and Sir George's
having

having told him, on that occasion, that all matters in dispute between the Vizier and the British Government had been happily adjusted by my exertions; to which Captain McLeod replied, that he was totally ignorant of there being any matters in dispute between the two Governments, adding, as a reason for this ignorance, that the negotiations and subjects of conference between the Vizier and the Resident were conducted with such secrecy and apparent cordiality on both sides, as to preclude their being known to those at Court. Captain McLeod will, I doubt not, on a reference, confirm the foregoing statement, which was heard by every member of my family; and yet it seems difficult to reconcile the anecdote, as above related, with the conference that took place between his Excellency the Vizier and Captain McLeod in the month of September preceding.

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20. Captain McLeod returned to Lucknow in the beginning of March, if I mistake not; and he details, in his narrative above referred to, the communication which he made to the Vizier on his return, namely, "that he had ascertained from satisfactory sources (those sources Captain McLeod has not described), that the Governor-General's sentiments were favourable to his Excellency's wishes:" to which his Excellency replied, that the statement of Captain McLeod was corroborated by letters received from his Lordship through the channel of the Resident, and more particularly by his Lordship's abolition of a most *obnoxious measure* which the former Government had proposed, namely, the appointment of Ameens; in other words, the reform of his Excellency's administration.

21. As Captain McLeod does not in his narrative refer to any intermediate communication between his Excellency the Vizier and himself during the period of his absence from this capital, though when the important nature of the deputations is considered, it seems almost impossible to suppose that so long an interval should have passed in total silence on both sides, a chasm remains to be filled up, to account for the Vizier's untoward proceedings reported officially by me in my despatches of December and January. Captain McLeod arrived in Calcutta early in the month of November, and from that date till the 13th of December there was obviously abundance of time for communications to his Excellency the Vizier, of a nature to encourage his opposition to the measures which were formerly agreed on, and which I had been subsequently instructed to propose. That this encouragement was not afforded in any communications from the Governor-General to his Excellency, conveyed through the channel of the Resident, the records of the Government prove; and though Lord Moira did me the honour to mention at Cawnpore that his Lordship had received and had answered one letter from the Vizier, conveyed through an irregular channel and unknown to me at the time, yet it is quite incredible that the abolition, as the Vizier terms it, or abandonment of the objects of reform on the part of the British Government, should have formed the object of a direct communication from the Governor-General to the Vizier.

22. How, then, it may be asked, was the abolition of the reform of this Government communicated to his Excellency the Vizier? Hukeem Mehdee, it is very well known, returned to his Excellency's councils about the end of November 1813. Mirza Jāfer, the brother of Mirza Bāker, proceeded to Calcutta, we also know, notwithstanding his Excellency's declared resolution to recall him, and suspension of the monthly allowance which Hukeem Mehdee had paid to him for a time. This allowance, it is worthy to be remarked, with a number of other charges for secret services and presents to English gentlemen and ladies, appeared in Hukeem Mehdee's accounts submitted to the present Vizier for adjustment, in my presence, shortly after his Excellency's accession. A paper of intelligence, too, transmitted by me to Mr. Edmonstone, and of which I have still a copy, contains a detailed account of a negotiation carried on at Calcutta for my removal from the Residency, for which his Excellency the Vizier had made an offer of twenty-five lacs of rupees, and an English gentleman is noticed as an agent in this negotiation, though without any mention of his name. Another paper of intelligence received about the same time, a copy of which I transmitted to Mr. Edmonstone or Mr. Monckton, and the original of which

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which is in my possession, contains a direct assertion, on the part of Hukeem Mehdee, to the Vizier, that he, the Hukeem, had had a letter from his correspondent or agent in Calcutta, in which Lord Moira's declaration was quoted to this effect: "that his Excellency's authority in his dominions, and his adoption or rejection of the reform, were in future to be totally uncontrolled by the influence or advice of the Resident, and that a letter to the same effect might shortly be expected by his Excellency." The connection of the foregoing intelligence with the statement of the present Vizier in his paper prepared by Hukeem Mehdee and presented to Lord Moira at Cawnpore, namely, that the execution of the measures of reform had been suspended by his Excellency's father in consequence of a letter from Lord Moira, is too obvious to escape observation; and thus the fact, so satisfactorily established, of the late Vizier having two agents, a European and a native, in Calcutta, the one supposed to be connected with Lady Loudon and the other tutored by Hukeem Mehdee, combined with the previous negotiation between Captain McLeod and the Hukeem, seems to me to form proof the most convincing to the mind of every person conversant in the slightest degree with the character of the natives of India, that the late Vizier's retraction of his solemn and written assurances regarding the reform of his Government, and all his untoward proceedings from the month of December 1813 till his death, were connected with the deputation of Captain McLeod and with intrigues conducted by Hukeem Mehdee.

23. My official despatch to your address under date the 22d of January 1814, contains a paragraph so strikingly descriptive of the nature of those proceedings and intrigues, though but imperfectly known to me at the time, that I must here take the liberty of inserting it. "The Vizier has been manifestly led to believe, by the vague and unfounded reports of designing persons around him, that the sentiments of the present Government are favourable to his views of absolute independence, uncontrollable by the Resident's advice; and till this misconception be removed, I have no expectation of a change in those unhappy and pernicious counsels which have guided his recent proceedings."*

24. Had the measures of the Government at that time, or the tenor of its instructions to me, been of a nature to invalidate the reports and to defeat the insidious designs of the persons to whom I alluded, it is probable that the conduct of the Vizier would have resumed the character which it exhibited before Lord Minto's retirement from office. But matters were otherwise ordered, and it was my duty to submit, continuing in office as I did, to the wisdom and will of my superiors.

25. The same disposition to oppose or evade the just views of our Government continued to be manifested by the Vizier till the commencement of his Excellency's indisposition in the ensuing month of May, and indeed till the melancholy hour of his sudden and unexpected demise. My despatches, official and private, to your address, from February till the end of June, need not to be referred to on this occasion: they exhibit my unremitting endeavours, in compliance with Lord Moira's commands, to conciliate the confidence of the Vizier, and to reconcile him, by the means which were prescribed to me, to the adoption of those measures of reform which I was still permitted to urge to him, and which had no other motive, on my part, than the welfare and prosperity of his Government, combined with the honour and reputation of our own. The failure of those salutary objects during his Excellency's lifetime, can obviously now be ascribed to no other cause than the influence of the baneful advice and intrigues of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan and his coadjutors, whose influence naturally ceasing on the death of the late Vizier, gave room for the happy accomplishment of every object in view, and for the adjustment of all pending questions between the British Government and the State of Oude, without any exertion on my part, save a friendly explanation to the present Vizier of the grounds and purposes of the counsels which I was instructed to offer to his father, and which his Excellency not only accepted with the utmost cheerfulness and gratitude, but solicited with an earnestness

* Vide Page 592, par. 10.

ness proportioned to the sincerity of the interest which I felt, and which he knew that I felt, in his welfare, and in the honour and prosperity of his Government.

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26. I now proceed to enquire, how the confidence of the present Vizier in my friendship, or rather his Excellency's belief of my possessing the confidence of the Government, was shaken unhappily for a time by the machinations of his enemies and mine, whose end was their personal advantage, at the expense of honour and truth, and of every laudable principle that can influence the conduct of man.

27. My official despatches to the Governor-General contain the details of my proceedings at this Court during the first month after his Excellency's accession; in which short period it will be observed, and is worthy of particular remark, that all the questions which depended between the two Governments, including the momentous question of reform, had been brought to a happy adjustment, to the perfect satisfaction of the Vizier, and in a manner which evinced his Excellency's entire confidence in the propriety of my suggestions regarding them. His Excellency's attachment to me, and his implicit reliance on my friendship, were described, as Lord Moira has observed, in colours the most animated and glowing. They appeared in those colours to me, and to all the population of this capital as well as to his Excellency's courtiers, and more particularly to those enemies of his Excellency's happiness and peace who have since been labouring to destroy them. I am ready to depose upon oath, and I refer for the confirmation of my assertion to those officers of the Vizier's Government who were present at our conferences on business, Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, Rajah Dya-Krishen, and Moonshee Bhola Nath, being the chief of them, that every suggestion which I offered to his Excellency was offered in the legitimate exercise of my duty as the British Resident at his Court, with the same deference and respect which I had formerly shewn to his father; that I repeatedly declined to interfere, and refused to offer my advice on a variety of points which he referred to me on the ground of their being personal or domestic; and that, on no occasion whatever, did I interfere, or attempt to interfere, in any of the concerns of his Government, save such as were unquestionably the common concerns of the two States, and as such required the interposition of my friendly counsel and advice, agreeably to the letter of my instructions.

28. As the appointment of Mr. Wilson to the office of personal surgeon to the Vizier forms a leading feature in the transactions which it is the object of this narrative to explain, it is indispensable that the true circumstances of this appointment be brought to particular notice.

29. Mr. Williams, the predecessor of Mr. Law as surgeon to his Excellency the late Vizier, resigned his situation in the year 1808 and proceeded to Europe, having previously, in conformity with an agreement, and as I afterwards understood, for a certain consideration in money, recommended Mr. Law to the Vizier as a proper person to succeed him. Mr. Law arrived at Lucknow towards the end of the year 1809; and during the interval between the departure of Mr. Williams and the appointment of Mr. Law, Mr. Wilson had frequently attended the late Vizier professionally, and had acquired his good opinion, to a degree which induced the general belief that his Excellency wished to secure Mr. Wilson's permanent attendance by appointing him to the vacant office of surgeon. Mr. Wilson, however, was of too independent a mind to seek for an office of this nature, into which certain observances had crept, and were then considered as indispensable, which he thought unsuitable to his age, and were certainly incompatible with his habits, and the appointment did therefore not take place.

30. His Excellency the present Vizier, whose unhappy estrangement from his father, and his father's dislike of him, have been known for a very long period, was subject to occasional illness from his youth, and in consequence of his estrangement from his father, had been frequently in the habit of applying for medical aid to the surgeon of the Residency instead of his father's surgeon. This practice, with a reference to Mr. Wilson, had commenced shortly after my arrival

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arrival at Lucknow, and Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, the present Minister of this Government, and the principal and only confidential servant of the Prince, was the medium of consultation with Mr. Wilson regarding the state of his master's health, and the channel of conveying medicine for his use.

31. On one particular occasion, during a hunting excursion in 1809, after Mr. Williams's departure from Lucknow and before Mr. Law's appointment, the Prince, then in favour with his father, was seized with an alarming and dangerous illness, during which Mr. Wilson attended and prescribed for him, by the particular desire of his father, whose gratitude, as well as the Prince's, for Mr. Wilson's attentions on that occasion, was frequently mentioned to me in the highest possible terms; and since that period it is known to a number of respectable persons, that the present Vizier has constantly had recourse to Mr. Wilson on every occasion of his illness. Nay, on one or two occasions I have heard, when Mr. Law was directed by the father to attend and prescribe for the Prince, that the latter, in apparent compliance with the command of his father, admitted the visits of Mr. Law and received medicines from his hand, which he afterwards destroyed instead of using them, and sent secretly for medicine to Mr. Wilson. These circumstances were all distinctly related to me, as I have now stated them, by his Excellency the present Vizier, during the night of his father's demise, when Mr. Wilson was the only surgeon in attendance, Mr. Law being confined to his house; and they were subsequently repeated by his Excellency on many occasions, as the natural and necessary cause of his continuing to employ Mr. Wilson as his personal Surgeon after his accession to the musnud, accompanied, however, as I was happy to observe, by the expression of a humane and liberal intention to retain Mr. Law in his service with the same allowances as before.

32. This arrangement of his Excellency the Vizier's I considered as purely domestic, and as one in which I could not interfere, on any pretext, with propriety; and I do now most solemnly declare, that I did not interfere in any other manner than by communicating the will of the Vizier, by his Excellency's express desire, to the parties immediately concerned in it. And further, I most conscientiously believe, that the arrangement was exclusively the dictate of his Excellency's own inclination, unsolicited, if even wished for, by Mr. Wilson, who did not certainly convey a wish on the subject, directly or indirectly, to the Vizier. The effect which it produced on the feelings of Mr. Law at the time has been described in that gentleman's statement, and was natural enough, I admit: but it certainly ought to have subsided, on his receiving the candid and friendly communication which I made to him of the cause of it, by desire of his Excellency the Vizier, as well as from motives of personal kindness; and the subsequent conduct of Mr. Law and his friends, more particularly of Captain McLeod, in propagating a most groundless report, that my influence over the mind of the Vizier had deprived him of his appointment in the household for the purpose of serving my friend, and that the story of Mr. Wilson's having formerly prescribed for the Vizier was a mere pretence and unfounded, is a conduct on which it seems unnecessary that I should offer any remarks. I must, however, be permitted to refer to a letter which was addressed to Mr. Law by the Vizier on the 25th July last, shortly after his accession to the musnud, in which his Excellency's sentiments on this subject are most fully and explicitly conveyed, and which it is remarkable that Mr. Law should have suppressed in his statement of the 10th of November. I have recently procured a copy of this letter from his Excellency, and insert a translation of it in this place. "I have received your arzee, expressive of your
"sorrow and concern at the message which I sent to you by the Resident, and
"stating that you had never committed any fault. The case is this:—it is
"generally known, that long before your arrival at this place in the service of
"my father, Dr. Wilson was my personal physician; and that about five years
"ago, when I was taken dangerously ill on a hunting excursion, Dr. Wilson
"attended and prescribed for me so much to my satisfaction, that while I live
"I can never forget the care and attention which he shewed to me. Since that
"date I have never voluntarily taken medicine from any other person; and
"consequently justice to Dr. Wilson, as well as my confidence in his skill from
"the

“ the experience of so many years, must require that I retain him as my physician. The loss of character and reputation, which you seem to apprehend, could obviously only have arisen to you if you had been my ancient physician, and Dr. Wilson had been recently appointed; whereas the state of the case is directly the reverse, for Dr. Wilson is my ancient physician, and you were the physician of my father: and consequently it follows, that all the injury which you represent would, of necessity, fall on Dr. Wilson (which God avert) were I now to displace him and take you, whereas to you there can be no injury whatever. It is true you have committed no fault, and I entertain no sentiments but those of kindness and benevolence towards you: nay, from a recollection of my father’s regard for you, I wish you to remain in my service, and as the Resident informed you by my desire, to prescribe for the members of my household.”

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33. The conduct of Captain McLeod with a reference to the appointment of Mr. Wilson to the office of surgeon to the Vizier, which was brought to my notice at this time, and even the sentiments which he expressed to myself, were such as to excite my surprise in a very extraordinary degree. The Vizier told me repeatedly that Captain McLeod had interceded for Mr. Law, and had represented in extraordinary terms the distress of the latter’s mind at the appointment of Mr. Wilson; that Mr. Law himself had also annoyed his Excellency, on one occasion, by crying most bitterly in his presence, and that his Excellency found it necessary to console him by assurances of a continuance of his friendship, and by sending some presents to his child. “ You know,” said his Excellency to me, “ that I have no wish whatever to injure Mr. Law, and that Mr. Wilson is the only physician whom I have ever consulted with my free will, or in whom I repose any confidence.” This circumstance, to the best of my recollection, I stated particularly to Captain McLeod, in explanation of the purport of my letter to Mr. Law, which that gentleman has produced with his statement, and which Captain McLeod had perused. I pointed out in strong terms to Captain McLeod the gross impropriety of his interference, as well as the absurdity of supposing that I could interfere in any such arrangement as that in question, and I hinted, in friendly terms, at the strange return which Captain McLeod was thus making to Mr. Wilson for his medical attendance on that gentleman’s family, which, to my knowledge, had been long most troublesome and gratuitous, and which Mr. Wilson would have been induced to decline but for my repeated and earnest entreaties, with a view to preserve harmony in my family, as well as from motives of friendship for Captain and Mrs. McLeod. Their manners and conduct towards Mr. Wilson had never appeared to me so cordial as his kindness to them had deserved, and more particularly on their return from Calcutta the asperity of their manners and discourse to Mr. Wilson had been frequently noticed by me, and had given rise to repeated altercation which I had interfered to appease; yet, notwithstanding this apparent reconciliation, it was evident to me and all my family, that both Captain and Mrs. McLeod entertained a dislike to Mr. Wilson, and indeed they occasionally avowed it, by stating their disagreement with him as the cause of their secession from the Residency, which began to be remarked at this time. Upon the whole, I do not hesitate to ascribe the extraordinary and intemperate zeal of Captain McLeod in advocating the cause of Mr. Law, both with the Vizier and in other situations, to a personal dislike of Mr. Wilson, as groundless and unnatural almost (if, indeed, a parallel could be found for it) as his peculiar ingratitude to me.

34. Having thus, in a satisfactory manner, explained the whole of the circumstances attending the appointment of Mr. Wilson to the office of Surgeon to the Vizier, and accounted for the feelings of dissatisfaction which this appointment created in the mind of Captain McLeod and Mr. Law, I proceed to offer a few remarks on the nature and character of Mr. Clarke’s connection with the two other gentlemen, as tending to develope the designs with which he became a party to their measures.

35. Mr. Clarke is a much older resident at Lucknow than any of the former gentlemen. I found him here on my arrival to take charge of the Residency,

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and received a favourable impression of his character from two or three of my intimate acquaintances; more particularly from the recommendation of Mr. Wilson, who described him as honourable and upright in his principles, modest and unoffending in his manners, and an object of humane consideration from a series of misfortunes that had assailed him. Mr. Clarke was, in consequence, received at my house with hospitality, and continued till very lately to be uniformly treated by me with every degree of attention that our relative situations admitted of. Shortly after the arrival of Mr. Law, I perceived, and was informed by Mr. Clarke, that he and Mr. Law had had a quarrel which suspended all intercourse between them, and seemed, by the statement of Mr. Clarke, to preclude the possibility of a reconciliation. Mr. Clarke preferred a complaint to me, through the medium of Dr. Wilson, against Mr. Law, for a breach of an engagement between them, and between the latter and Mr. Williams, having reference to the appointment of Mr. Law, through the good offices of Messrs. Williams and Clarke, to his situation of surgeon to the Vizier. I observed, on perusing the papers, that the complaint of Mr. Clarke was of such a nature as to preclude my deciding on the merits of it without a reference to my official character, and I desired Mr. Clarke to reconsider the propriety of making such a reference. The matter in that form was in consequence dropped; but the quarrel between Mr. Clarke and Mr. Law continued with increasing virulence on both sides, till the Vizier's departure to Cawnpore to meet the Governor-General, when I was astonished, but happy to hear, that they were cordially reconciled to each other. Captain McLeod had originally taken up the cause of Mr. Law against Mr. Clarke with extraordinary warmth, and had ceased for a considerable time to hold any intercourse with the latter: but I had observed a reconciliation and growing intimacy between Mr. Clarke and Captain McLeod before the latter's departure to the Presidency in September 1813; and it was understood in October last, that Captain McLeod had been the sole instrument of the reconciliation between the two other gentlemen. The motives and objects of the reconciliation and association of the three are now sufficiently apparent.

36. The appointment of the sons of Mirza Jāfer to situations in the service of the Vizier is a circumstance particularly noticed in the Right Honourable the Governor-General's remarks; and as it appears to be the only occurrence from which his Lordship has been pleased to deduce the grounds of his censure of my proceedings, I deem it my duty to add to the solemn declarations already recorded on this subject the following simple detail.

37. My opinion of the character of Mirza Jāfer, founded on my own experience of his integrity and zeal in the service of the British Government during a period of twelve years, and on the sound and unerring judgment of my worthy predecessor, Colonel Scott, needs not to be reported on this occasion. On the death of Maha-Rajah Ticket Roy in the year 1800, Colonel Scott had recommended Mirza Jāfer for the office of subordinate Minister to his Excellency the late Vizier; and on the occasion of his Excellency's last illness, as well as immediately after his decease, I had submitted to the Right Honourable the Governor-General my sentiments regarding the necessity for the nomination of a Minister to conduct the details of this Government, conveying at the same time to Mr. Edmonstone and to you, the unbiassed conviction of my mind, that Mirza Jāfer was the only native of Oude entitled by his character and talents to aspire to the situation in question. My private letter of the 4th of August on this subject is doubtless still in your possession; and you can further relate, if it be necessary, the purport of our conversations at Cawnpore, and the sincere regret which I expressed to you, when informed that Lord Moira was averse to the appointment of Mirza Jāfer to the office of Minister. It may be proper in this place to state, with a reference to Captain McLeod's narrative of the late Vizier's complaints to him, when on the eve of his departure to the Presidency, that Mirza Jāfer, from bodily infirmity and a variety of other causes, had ceased for a number of years to hold any official situation under me, and consequently that the complaints of the Vizier with regard to this respectable person were not only utterly unfounded, but must have been known to Captain
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McLeod at the time to be totally inconsistent with the situation of Mirza Jāfer relatively to me, and with the character of my official proceedings, which gives less room for the operation of native influence on my mind than on that of most public officers in India.

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38. My opinion of the sons of Mirza Jāfer is by no means so favourable as that which I have ever entertained of their father; though, with the exception of their natural haste to profit by the Vizier's liberality in acquiring situations and salaries which they knew that I must necessarily disapprove, I have really never had cause to form a judgment unfavourable to their characters. The eldest, Mirza Hajee, indeed is the only one of them who is thoroughly known to me, he having acted as my Dewan in Bundelcund and at this place for a period of eleven years, and his conduct in that situation having been generally satisfactory. The time and manner of this person's admission into the Vizier's service have been already distinctly related in my answers to the Vizier's papers; and while I repeat my readiness to confirm the former statement on oath, I am fortunately enabled to refer it to the additional testimony of the Vizier himself and of his Ministers, and of all those who were present in durbar on the day of his accession to the musnud. That I did not more decidedly refuse to comply with the Vizier's request upon that occasion, is now a cause of regret to me: chiefly, however, I must add, from the fickleness of his Excellency's disposition, which I could not have known at the time; for contemplating, as I then did, the future nomination of Mirza Jāfer to the office of Minister to the Vizier by his Excellency's voluntary choice, and with the ready concurrence of our Government, I saw no objection whatever to the more early admission of the son into the service and councils of his Excellency; and, on the contrary, I was pleased to observe so early a proof of regard for the family of a person, whose merits were so strongly impressed on my mind.

39. Mirza Hajee became the servant of the Vizier, and was succeeded in the office of my Dewan by Meer Ameer Hyder, the son-in-law of my head Moon-shee, on the day of his Excellency's accession; and from that day till the day of his dismissal by the Vizier, I saw less of Mirza Hajee than of any other of his Excellency's servants of equal rank; nor did I ever learn, or enquire into the amount of the salary fixed for him, though I frequently recommended to his Excellency to satisfy himself of Mirza Hajee's merits, and of the value of his services, before he admitted him to his confidence, and particularly to be cautious of receiving any communication from him, or from any other native, of my sentiments or wishes, which I should never impart to a native, but convey to his Excellency directly as circumstances might seem to require.

40. At the first public durbar which was holden by the Vizier after his accession, the other sons of Mirza Jāfer, in common with all the respectable inhabitants of Lucknow, were presented as a matter of course to his Excellency, and received the usual khillats. None of these young men were in any degree connected with me, nor did I ever recommend them to his Excellency.

Their admission into his Excellency's service was naturally brought about by their elder brother, whose connection with the Residency had ceased, and whose conduct I had no longer a right to control, nor to take cognizance in any manner of his proceedings. The Vizier frequently talked of his usefulness about the durbar, and announced to me, as he was then in the voluntary habit of doing, with a reference to every act of his life, his intention of employing the younger brothers. I answered, that they had formerly served under me as Tuhseeldars, or officers of revenue in Bundelcund, and that his Excellency might perhaps find them useful at some future period in that line; but I repeated, on this occasion, my caution against the employment of any person by his Excellency, from an idea that it might be gratifying to me; and I recommended particularly on this as on many other occasions, the propriety of his Excellency's delaying to fill up any vacant offices of importance under his Government, till the arrival of the Governor-General should give an opportunity of consulting his Lordship, in person, on the choice of a proper Minister and subordinate officers to conduct the whole of the details of the administration.

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41. The foregoing detail of the circumstances of the admission of the sons of Mirza Jāfer into the service of his Excellency the Vizier, with the remarks that were formerly offered in my paper of the 9th of November, ought in justice, I humbly conceive, to obviate the censure which has been passed upon this part of my proceedings by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, who would seem, I am sorry to think, to have hesitated about the propriety of removing me from the important station which I hold, and the duties of which I have conducted with uniform zeal and success, on no other ground that appears, than my declining to interfere in, and prevent a domestic arrangement of the Vizier's, by which his Excellency thought proper to provide for the four sons of Mirza Jāfer, a respectable and meritorious dependant of the Honourable Company's Government, no otherwise connected with me than by his faithful attachment to its interests. Yet it must be obvious on a moment's reflection, that such an interference on my part would not only have been contrary to my instructions, but to the spirit and nature of the alliance between our Government and the State of Oude.

42. Lord Moira has however declared, that there were other particulars in my conduct which his Lordship found reason to censure, and some on which he suspected that disapprobation should rest; but as these have not been explained to me, I am precluded from offering a vindication; and the same observation applies to those points of my behaviour to the Vizier in the presence of the Governor-General, which his Lordship considered as of a nature to wound his Excellency's feelings. I disavow on my honour and truth, and I am ready to do so on oath, my having ever, in word or deed, given cause of offence to the Vizier, or made use of any expression, far less committed an act, that could wound his Excellency's feelings, or detract from the dignity or independence of his station, and I entreat my Lord Moira to grant me an opportunity of removing the grounds of a suspicion so injurious to my character.

43. How then, it may naturally be asked, was his Excellency induced to lend his name, or rather the semblance of his authority (for his seal was cautiously withholden), to those false, frivolous, and most malicious charges, which though retracted with sorrow and shame within a few hours after their exhibition, and before his Excellency could go to rest, have been deposited among the archives of the British Government, as if substantial charges against its representative? This question can only be answered by unravelling a second intrigue, more base and more complicated than that which my narrative has already developed, in as far as the Vizier was the unwilling instrument of the latter, while his father had an obvious interest in directing and encouraging the former.

44. The conduct of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan during the first month after the sudden fall of his power on the demise of the late Vizier, is sufficiently described in my despatches to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General. This fall, like that of Lucifer, might be expected to excite despair in the first instance, and afterwards to give rise to those designs which the recent transactions have developed, and which I detected and reported to you so early as the 8th of September last.

45. Hukeem Mehdee had been a farmer of revenue to the extent of nearly thirty lacs of rupees per annum under the Government of the late Vizier, and the loss of this lucrative farm was the first sacrifice which he found himself called upon to make to the new system of administration. His secret disinclination to the reform was therefore not to be doubted; but the ready acquiescence of his Sovereign in all my suggestions on this point leaving no hope of success to his design of suspending the reform, the versatility of his disposition suggested his cheerful acquiescence in the measures which I had recommended to the Vizier, as the means of regaining my confidence, and perhaps of paving his way to the latent object of his ambition—the situation of Minister of Oude.

46. He had penetration, however, at an early period, to find out that the judgment which I had formed of his character was hostile to his ambitious views, and that my influence, as far as it could be exerted with propriety, would be

be favourable to the appointment of Mirza Jâfer. Hence naturally arose the resumption of his former devices and cabals, and in all probability his second recurrence to Captain McLeod and the subordinate instruments of intrigue, whom he had formerly used with success to practice on the mind of his Sovereign. Mirza Jâfer, as the supposed rival of the Hukeem, was of course represented to the Vizier as the enemy of his Excellency's independence as well as of that of his father, and an instrument in my hands for its subversion. His sons were described as my spies, employed to report to me the occurrences at his Excellency's durbar; and the imprudence of those young men themselves, as I now have some reason to believe, in boasting of their father's expectation of the office of Minister to the Vizier, had probably disgusted his Excellency, and given grounds to Hukeem Mehdee and others for exaggerated statements to their prejudice, which have ultimately been productive of their ruin.

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47. With regard to the English coadjutors of Hukeem Mehdee, I was totally ignorant of their proceedings, and never even suspected their designs till after my arrival at Cawnpore in the suite of his Excellency the Vizier. Mr. Clarke had applied for my influence to obtain the repayment of a loan that he had made to an Aumil of this Government who died insolvent several years ago. I submitted his application to the Vizier, who received it graciously at first, and Mr. Clarke seemed grateful for my mediation. Captain McLeod had solicited my interference to procure from the Vizier's liberality a compensation for the loss which had arisen to him from his preference of the Vizier's service to the office of superintendent of roads. I considered it an act of duty and friendship to submit the circumstances of this case to the consideration of his Excellency the Vizier, and the result was a donation of 9,000 rupees to Captain McLeod, with an augmentation of his monthly salary from 1,500 to 2,000 rupees, as reported officially in my despatch of the 17th of August last, for which Captain McLeod was most profuse in his expressions of gratitude and attachment to me.

48. The circumstances which gave dissatisfaction to Mr. Law have been already narrated in detail, and Captain McLeod's participation in his feelings, as well as zealous exertions to reinstate him in a situation which he had naturally lost on the death of his only employer, have also been briefly explained. Captain McLeod's personal visits to the Vizier of an evening were observed to commence about this time, and appeared to me to be irregular and improper, but the idea of a conversation on political subjects between them had never entered into my thoughts; and as the Vizier had never exhibited the smallest symptoms of uneasiness, far less of dissatisfaction with me, nor had I ever given him cause to do so, the expression of his dissatisfaction to Captain McLeod could not have entered into my contemplation. His Excellency has since declared to his Minister, and the Minister has reported to me, that the uniform purport and tendency of Captain McLeod's discourse in the carriage was to excite a suspicion of my friendship, to impress his Excellency with a belief that his independence could never be maintained, that the concerns of his Government could not prosper, while I was Resident at his Court; that the circumstance of my having placed him on the musnud precluded, and must ever preclude, my feeling or evincing towards him that degree of deference and respect which was due to his exalted station; that, besides, I was the enemy of his father, who had complained against me frequently to the Governor-General, and that Lord Moira, who knew the justice of his complaints, had determined on this account, and from personal disinclination towards me, to take an opportunity of removing me from Lucknow.

49. While Captain McLeod was thus separately practising on the mind of his Excellency the Vizier during their drives of an evening in the carriage, it appears that Hukeem Mehdee and he were in the daily habit of meeting, to concert on the most effectual plan of conducting their joint operations. The scene of those meetings is described to have been the buildings of the old palace or dowlut-khana, which they were jointly employed in repairing, the one as designer and the other as superintendent of the works; and this circumstance, though occasionally brought to my notice at the time, like the drives of

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an evening with his Excellency, was not sufficient to create in my mind the slightest suspicion of the rectitude of Captain McLeod's conduct and principles, till developed by the maturation of the plot and by his own most explicit confession.

50. As Agha Meer, the present Minister of this Government, is a principal person referred to in the statement of Captain McLeod and also in the minute of Lord Moira, I am naturally led, in this place, to describe the character of Agha Meer, in as far as it has yet become known to me, and his condition, relatively to the Vizier and myself, before he was suddenly raised to the important station of Minister.

51. Agha Meer is by birth a seyyud of respectable parentage and connexions. His father's name was Meer Mohummud Tukee, and his own proper name is Seyyud Mohummud, reserved in the patent of nobility which has been conferred on him recently by the Vizier. The Governor-General's allusion to this person's standing in his Lordship's presence behind the Prince's chair is equally applicable to natives of the highest rank at Lucknow, save the nearest relations of the Sovereign. Hukeem Mehdee, for example, though the chief director of the late Vizier's councils and most confidential servant of his Government, exercising in fact all the functions of chief Minister, was never permitted to take a seat, and could never have expected that honour unless raised to the ostensible situation of Minister, which alone, and but in latter days, gave the distinction of a chair in the Vizier's presence to natives unconnected with him by blood.

52. Agha Meer, however, and his father before him, were the principal and only confidential servants of his Excellency the present Vizier for a period of nearly twenty years. The father, I have lately been informed, was his Excellency's tutor for a time, and the attachment of Agha Meer to his Excellency, while labouring under the displeasure of his father, resisted both the offers and threats of the late Vizier, and the intrigues and cajolements of Hukeem Mehdee, to detach him from the service of the Prince and engage him in the father's employment. These circumstances were stated to me by the Vizier in terms of affection and gratitude on the day of his accession to the musnud. His Excellency then introduced Agha Meer to my friendship, as a faithful adherent to his fortunes during the most unhappy periods of his life, and he urged me, shortly after his accession, to confer on this faithful servant a khillat of extraordinary distinction, including an embroidered palkee, and comprizing the greatest number of pieces that are ever bestowed on an officer of the highest rank and consideration; thus paving the way, as it would seem, to the honours which have since been conferred on him. With me, in every situation, save in the presence of his Sovereign, and with his present Sovereign before he became so, Agha Meer has been constantly seated; and his birth, education, and talents, though none of them certainly such as, independently of the confidence of his master, to have called him or entitled him to aspire to his present exalted situation, are still by no means inferior to those of any former Minister in Oude, excepting, and with a reference only to talents, the late Tufuzzool Hoosein Khan, who was called to this station by Lord Teignmouth.

53. My personal knowledge of Agha Meer commenced, as above stated, on the day of his master's accession to the musnud, and he has uniformly since been the medium of every communication of importance received by me from the Vizier. His attachment to his master under various trials and temptations, by which the fidelity of most natives would have been shaken, had been established to my perfect conviction before he was personally known to me. His conduct since I have had occasion to observe it, with a reference to his master and our Government, has been such as I could not but approve, and the share which I now believe him to have had, though I was totally ignorant of it at the time, in encouraging his master's repentance of the monstrous ingratitude and folly into which he was misled by Hukeem Mehdee and the English coadjutors of that person, on the 31st of October last, is in my mind more honourable to his character than a long line of ancestors ennobled, and must yield him more permanent

permanent satisfaction than all the power and enjoyments of his station of Minister to the Vizier.

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54. But to return to persons of less value in my estimation than Agha Meer, though of greater importance on the theatre of the recent extraordinary transactions. Among the various emissaries of Hukeem Mehdee, the person named Mirza Jäfer, brother, of Mirza Bäker, who is noticed in a former part of this narrative, was now on his way from Calcutta, and reported to have overtaken the fleet of his Excellency the Governor-General. Another, named Taj-ood-Deen Hoosein Khan, was engaged in the service at Cawnpore, and deputed on a mission to Benares; but of this person it is unnecessary to say much, as yourself, and more particularly Mr. Ricketts, can describe to the Government the opinion which you had reason to form of his views. He is now in the service of the Vizier, as the deputy Nazim of a district; and the account which I have had of his deputation by Hukeem Mehdee, in September last, is shortly as follows: The Hukeem having begun to suspect, from the apparent association of Captain McLeod with Mr. Clarke, and by their frequent consultations with the Vizier, from which the Hukeem was excluded, that the English gentlemen had a separate scheme of their own, deemed it also expedient for himself to set some separate engines to work; and with this view deputed Taj-ood-Deen to Benares, where he was known to several English gentlemen, from whom introductions to Mr. Ricketts were obtained; and with these introductions, and some valuable Persian swords which Mr. Ricketts rejected at Cawnpore, Taj-ood-Deen joined the suite of Lord Moira, and remained in attendance for some months. Gocul Chund Chobey, an ostensible agent of the Vizier's in occasional attendance on the Governor-General, was also coming up with the fleet. An intrigue of Gunaish Pershaud, the son of Gocul Chund Chobey, whether his own unassisted contrivance or directed by Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, was detected early in September, and reported to you, for his Lordship's information, in my private letter of the 8th of that month, to which, and to my further letters of the 26th and 27th of September, I would now particularly refer, as they exhibit the view which I took of the proceedings at this Court in September, and of the circumstances which gave rise to those proceedings. Gunaish Pershaud has since been convicted of intrigues with the Khass Muhl and the Nawab Nuseer-ood-Dowlah, and of having received sums of money from them in advance, to be given, as he basely pretended, to natives about the Government-house, for the accomplishment of the objects of those personages.

56. The reported statement of Gunaish Pershaud to the Vizier, with a reference to a reform of this Government, as conveyed by my private letter above-noticed, whether Gunaish's invention, or his father's, or that of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, was publicly talked of at this durbar, and naturally gave rise or encouragement to the intended deputation of Hukeem Mehdee to wait on the Governor-General at Elahabad, for the purpose of ascertaining his sentiments regarding the question of reform, as well as generally the degree of his Lordship's confidence which was reposed in his representative at the Court of Lucknow.

57. My objections to the deputation of Hukeem Mehdee, as expensive, unprofitable, and injurious, as well as inconsistent with the Vizier's formerly declared opinion of the character and views of the Hukeem, are stated in my letters to your address of the 26th and 27th of September, and they appeared to have made a proper impression on the mind of the Vizier at the time; for his Excellency departed from his intention, and a large sum of money, three lacs of rupees, exclusive of jewels, as reported, which the Hukeem was to have received from his Excellency, and would doubtless have embezzled, under the pretext of applying it as douceurs to the natives in the suite of the Governor-General, was thus saved to the Government of the Vizier.

58. The feelings of disappointment and mortification excited in the mind of Hukeem Mehdee by the failure of this deputation may very easily be conceived. He ascribed it, of course, to my influence, and represented it, as I understood, to the Vizier in the light of a subversion of his Excellency's authority, and of

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a measure adopted by me to lower him in the opinion of his subjects, since the preparations for the mission had been published, and the Hukeem had been boasting by anticipation of the triumph which his mission to Lord Moira, would give him over his rivals at this Court.

59. The Vizier commenced his journey to Cawnpore on the 7th of the month of October, and on our second march from Lucknow an untoward occurrence took place respecting a trooper in his Excellency's service, which would seem to have been reported to Lord Moira in false or exaggerated terms, with the base and malicious design of prejudicing his Lordship against me. It would, perhaps, have been fortunate for me, if his Lordship, as I might naturally have expected from consideration for the high office which I hold, had stated this report to myself, instead of noticing it to persons who were not present on the occasion, and could not be informed of the circumstances, even if totally disinterested in their statement. The whole of the circumstances as they happened are recorded in my paper of the 9th November, and may be referred to the testimony on oath of Captain Fortune and of several native spectators. Moonshee Alee Nuckee Khan, the head Moonshee of the Residency, who explained the circumstances exactly as they occurred to the Vizier, and brought about the friendly explanation between his Excellency and me, has ever since been distinguished by his Excellency's favour, and received from him the title of Moslehood-Dowlah, or conciliator, in consequence of his judicious conduct on that occasion.

60. On the morning of the 9th of October I quitted the Vizier's camp and proceeded to Cawnpore, for the purpose of paying my personal respects to Lord Moira. The circumstances of my reception at Cawnpore, as naturally influencing the opinions of the Court and courtiers of Lucknow, shall here be briefly referred to. Having had no previous intimation of the Governor General's desire of my immediate attendance on his Lordship, I proceeded to the house of General Stafford, commanding the troops at Cawnpore, and was informed by the General, on my arrival, that the customary honour of a salute to all foreign ambassadors was withholden from me by Lord Moira's command, on the ground that the presence of the Governor-General suspended the rank of the representative of the British Government for the time. To this I might have answered from recollection, that salutes are usual in Fort-William on the arrival of Residents at the Presidency, and that the general orders of Lord Cornwallis prescribe this compliment to the Resident at Lucknow at every station where there are guns, without any exception whatever.

61. The inferences which were drawn in the Vizier's camp from the omission of this common observance were natural and unanswerable on my part. They were aided by the casual circumstance of my having awaited the order of Lord Moira for the honour of admission into his presence till a late hour in the afternoon; and the personal kindness and affability of his Lordship's manner towards me during the whole period of my stay at Cawnpore, though they inspired me with gratitude and respect, could have no influence whatever to remove the original impression which the foregoing circumstances occasioned on the minds of the Court of Lucknow.

62. On the morning of the 10th of October I returned to the Vizier's encampment, accompanied by a deputation from the Governor-General, to congratulate his Excellency on his arrival, and arrange the ceremonies of his first interview with his Lordship at Cawnpore on the following day. This interview took place, as described in the Governor-General's minute, without any remarkable occurrence; but immediately after it I was instructed by his Lordship's Secretary, Mr. Ricketts, to open a negotiation with the Vizier for the loan of a crore of rupees to the Honourable Company, to appear as a voluntary offer to Lord Moira.

63. This negotiation was rendered peculiarly embarrassing to me, and of a nature likely to weaken the Vizier's belief of my possessing the confidence of the Governor-General, by the circumstance of my having rejected a similar offer from the Vizier at the date of his accession to the musnud, professing the most

most perfect disinterestedness on my own part and that of the Government, with regard to every object save his Excellency's honour and advantage, and the welfare and reputation of his Government. Nevertheless, it was my duty to obey the instructions with which I was charged; and the result of my negotiation was successful with a reference to the public views, though applied by the malice of my enemies to weaken my influence at this Court.

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64. I arranged with his Excellency the Vizier, that his offer of a crore of rupees should be made at a conference with Lord Moira on the morning of the 13th of October. At the close of this memorable conference, the only one to which I had the honour of admission till the night preceding Lord Moira's departure from Lucknow, I was mortified and surprised beyond measure, after hearing his Lordship declare his entire confidence in the Resident, to find that declaration superseded by an invitation of his Excellency the Vizier, distinctly translated by Mr. Swinton, to a conference with the Governor-General, from which Major Baillie should be excluded whenever the Vizier might desire it, for any purpose that he had in view.

65. The motive of this invitation it is not for me to explain; but the manifest inference to be drawn from it and its natural influence on the mind of a native, even untutored, cannot require explanation.

66. His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General has omitted, from forgetfulness I conclude, to refer to his invitation of the Vizier at the first conference with his Excellency, and has described the subsequent invitation at their interview of the 15th October, to a previous application through Mr. Clarke; but the circumstance, as described, being of some importance to my narrative, I must be forgiven for recalling it to notice. It must be evident to his Lordship, on a recollection of his personal invitation to the Vizier at the first interview with his Excellency, that the subsequent application from Mr. Clarke was utterly superfluous and useless; and hence I see reason to infer, that Mr. Clarke's application to his Lordship could not have been suggested by the Vizier, but was devised by Hukeem Mehdee, or Mr. Clarke, for purposes sufficiently obvious, and the success of it afterwards used as a proof to his Excellency the Vizier of his Lordship's displeasure with me, which may naturally enough have induced the Vizier's supervenient avowal of the application, when questioned to that effect at the conference.

67. And here I may be allowed to lament, that an infraction so manifest and express, on the part of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, of the positive orders of Government, in presuming to be the channel of communication between the Vizier and the Governor-General, should not only have been tolerated but acted on, and the circumstance concealed from my knowledge till recorded in the minute of Lord Moira. Mr. Ricketts mentioned to me, I recollect, that a message had been received by his Lordship through an irregular channel, and that the bearer of the message had been reprimanded; but Mr. Ricketts repeatedly declined to inform me of the purport of the message, the name or condition of the messenger, and whether he was European or native. I particularly enquired if it was Taj-ood-Deen Hoosein Khan, a person noticed in this narrative as one of the emissaries of Hukeem Mehdee, who was known to have attended Mr. Ricketts. Mr. Ricketts did not answer my question, so as to throw any light on the subject.

68. The conference on Saturday at Lord Moira's, from which his Lordship was pleased to exclude me, at the suggestion of Mr. Clarke and Captain McLeod, passed over, like the former one in camp, without any remarkable occurrence. The plot could not have been brought to maturity at that time, or the Vizier's conscience must have hitherto resisted the practices of Hukeem Mehdee and his colleagues in intrigue. I had waited on his Excellency before dinner, for the purpose of attending him to the Government-House, and had accompanied him, as I usually did when indifferent persons were in waiting, to an inner apartment of his tents on the bank of the river, where we discussed the terms of the obligation to be given by the Governor-

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General for the loan of a crore of rupees, and the probable time of the advance and re-payment of the several instalments of the loan,

69. The extraordinary insinuation of Captain McLeod in his second statement, with regard to the above-mentioned conference, affords a manifest and most impressive description of the state of his own mind at the time, but can obviously have no reference whatever to mine; for I have already declared, and am ready to repeat upon oath, that the most distant idea of a complaint against me by the Vizier could never have entered into my contemplation: and it is further worthy of remark, that the Vizier's paper of requests, prepared and given in to Lord Moira at the first conference with his Lordship, without my previous knowledge or concurrence, though containing objections to the reform, was descriptive of the most cordial friendship for me.

70. I returned with his Excellency in his carriage on Saturday night to the camp, and he favoured me with a partial description of what passed at the conference with Lord Moira, exemplifying his Lordship's assurance of friendship and regard for his Excellency, by the expression "Huzrut, toom khoosh rohu" in Hindoostanee, which his Excellency repeated several times, and seemed to be highly pleased with, as well as some other occurrences at the conference which his Excellency described to me during our drive, more particularly that of his having been desired to give in another paper of requests, which he had promised to do accordingly; but added, that he was at a loss how to frame it, and must require my advice on the subject.

71. During our stay in the neighbourhood of Cawnpore (I forget the particular day) I received a note from Captain Gilbert, to request my sanction of his visiting the Nawab Vizier in his camp. The application and the visit surprised me, because I knew that Captain Gilbert, though repeatedly my guest at Lucknow, could scarcely have any acquaintance with the present Vizier, who was rarely in attendance on his father, and as I could not be present on that day to introduce Captain Gilbert to his Excellency, the visit appeared to be irregular; yet, a consideration of Captain Gilbert's connexion with Lord Moira, and a natural belief that his Lordship's sanction to this visit must have been previously obtained, precluded all objection on my part, and I afterwards understood that Captain Gilbert had been introduced to the Vizier by Mr. Clarke, as Lord Moira's confidential friend, and that presents of some jewelry and shawls, inconsistent with established observances, since Captain Gilbert had no official character, had been sent by the Vizier to his house. Mr. Clarke was reported to be the medium of the transmission of those presents to Captain Gilbert, and also of a sword to Major Davidson; and this circumstance struck me in such a light as to open my eyes in some degree with regard to the conduct of Mr. Clarke, whom I requested Captain McLeod, as his friend, to admonish of the impropriety of such conduct. A conversation of some length took place between Captain McLeod and me on this subject at the house of Captain Maling at Cawnpore; and it has since frequently occurred to me, that Captain McLeod appeared to defend the conduct of Mr. Clarke on that occasion with a degree of warmth, irritation, and impatience, which ought to have opened my eyes, if I had not been totally unsuspecting, to the views and practices of the former as well as the latter, and to the encouragement (unintentional I am persuaded) which their joint views must have received from an authority paramount to my own.

72. His Excellency the Vizier took leave of the Governor-General at Cawnpore on Monday the 17th of October, and we commenced our journey towards Lucknow on the following day. During the journey, and after our return to the capital, the greatest possible cordiality subsisted between his Excellency and me, and he appeared to be even more than ordinarily kind and attentive. A dinner, by special invitation, at Julotra, where an illumination on the water took place, was an unusual mark of his attention; and he expressed a particular anxiety, on that occasion, to obtain my assistance in framing the second paper of requests which he had promised to submit to Lord Moira.

73. You must recollect the purport of my private correspondence with yourself about this time, in which I particularly stated my having declined to give any

any opinion or advice on the subject of his Excellency's requests; observing, that they should be the genuine dictates of his own mind, uninfluenced by any adviser, since these, and these only, were desired by his Excellency's friend, the Governor-General. My letter of the 26th of October, of which I still have a copy, describes the circumstances that attended the final preparation and transmission of the second paper of requests, which, as containing nothing indicative in the remotest degree of his Excellency's dissatisfaction with me, must be received as a positive proof that even then, notwithstanding all the attempts of his Excellency's enemies and mine, his conscience, or innate sense of honour and rectitude, had hitherto resisted their endeavours to produce the false accusation which he was ultimately compelled to exhibit.

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74. His Excellency's meetings with the Governor-General during the first week after his Lordship's arrival at Lucknow were frequent, almost daily indeed; and during this period it is remarkable, that no symptom of dissatisfaction with me on the part of his Excellency should have appeared: that, on the contrary, the utmost cordiality on both sides should have been manifest, and that no disposition should have been indicated, either directly or through the medium of the secretaries, to obtain a conference with the Governor-General, or to make any communication to his Lordship, save through the constituted and regular channel.

75. A suspicion in the mind of the Governor-General, that I had misinterpreted a request of the Vizier's with regard to the appointment of Dr. Wilson, is indicated by a passage in the minute which his Lordship has been pleased to record, having reference to the elephant fight at Baroun: but as this suspicion has been obviated by the official report of his Lordship's three secretaries of their conference with his Excellency the Vizier, at which his former request on this subject is specifically referred to and confirmed, it seems totally unnecessary for me to comment on this unfortunate occurrence. Yet I entreat my Lord Moira to consider, and dispassionately to reflect on the inference which the Vizier must have necessarily drawn from his Lordship's suspicion of the veracity of his representative at the court of Lucknow, evinced by his deputation of Captain Gilbert to ascertain the correctness of my interpretation of a speech which was made by his Excellency in the presence of a hundred spectators.

76. To this deputation of Captain Gilbert, and his private conference, assisted by Mr. Clarke, with the Vizier, I ascribe the maturation of the plot: a conspiracy designed by Hukeem Mehdee, most readily entered into by Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, and unintentionally encouraged by Lord Moira; the principal objects of which were the subversion of the reform of this Government, my removal from the office of Resident, and the elevation of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan to the station of Prime Minister to the Vizier. Some other subordinate objects, which have a natural tendency to explain, and were necessary, perhaps, to account for, the extraordinary association and views of the subordinate instruments of the intrigue, have been ascribed to it by general report, which the Vizier, as I understand, has authenticated, and which his Minister has frequently declared to me to consist with his personal knowledge. Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke are reported to have each had a promise from his Excellency of the sum of a lac of rupees,* as the reward of their labours in ascertaining the sentiments of the Governor-General with regard to the reform and the Resident; and his Excellency had further engaged to make good such other douceurs, to a very considerable amount, as Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke might recommend to be given to their friends who assisted the progress of their enquiries. Mr. Clarke was to be aide-de-camp and Major, with the salary annexed to

* This promise, if made as reported, was certainly never performed by his Excellency, who from the moment of the exposure of the intrigue shewed a marked dislike, and even an illiberal resentment towards Captain McLeod, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Law, which I had some difficulty in restraining. The two former gentlemen, in particular, though I must ever deem their conduct to be culpable in a very extraordinary degree, both with a reference to the public and to myself, have suffered much more from the effects of it, than my feelings towards them at any time could have induced me to wish or desire.

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to those offices when held in former times by Mr. Ouseley, and Mr. Law was to be appointed to the office of personal surgeon to the Vizier.

77. The conversation holden with his Excellency the Vizier by Captain Gilbert, on the occasion above referred to, has never been particularly explained to me. Its general purport and drift, as described by his Excellency to the Minister, and repeated by the latter to my Moonshee, were of a nature to force on his Excellency's mind a conviction of the Governor-General's displeasure with me, and his resolution to remove me from my station, if a pretext for doing so could be found. Captain Gilbert's manner must have indicated, if his language did not clearly express, the Governor-General's suspicion of my veracity in the case of Dr. Wilson and Mr. Law, and his Lordship's particular desire to place the latter in his Excellency's household, in the room of the former, who was disliked, and whom his Excellency, it was insinuated, should guard against as the confidential friend of the Resident. The natural effect of such a conversation, and of the comments which Mr. Clarke would have made on it, on the mind of his Excellency the Vizier, nay, the necessary inference which he must have drawn from a question that indicated a doubt in the mind of the Governor-General of the truth of my statement to his Lordship, needs not to be suggested by me, and may very naturally have produced, with a view to Lord Moira's gratification, the message which Captain Gilbert reported to have been given to him by his Excellency the Vizier. Mr. Clarke has thought proper to suppress any allusion, the most remote, to this conference in his answer to your official reference, and the reason for his doing so must be plain. This circumstance, of itself, supersedes the necessity for my offering any comments on the character, in other respects, of that gentleman's letter to your address.

78. It is further worthy of remark, with a reference to Captain Gilbert's deputation, that I received a note from this gentleman while on my way to Constantia, in the morning, requesting my permission to breakfast that day with his Excellency, but taking no notice whatever of his having received an invitation to do so, nor of the conference which was proposed to be holden, under the sanction and instruction of the Governor-General, which must obviously, in the mind of Captain Gilbert, have superseded his application to me; and therefore the motive of the application, unless intended as a blind to conceal from me the real design of the visit, would seem to require explanation.

79. Another circumstance, deserving perhaps of remark, with a reference to Captain Gilbert's deputation, occurs to be noticed in this place. While sitting with Lord Moira at breakfast, I received a message from the Vizier, to announce an unexpected visit from Captains Gilbert and McRa, and to enquire whether presents should be offered to them. I stated the message to Lord Moira, who observed that no presents must be taken, and wrote a note to that effect to one of the gentlemen. From this circumstance and the foregoing, I should infer that Captain Gilbert's visit to his Excellency was not only unexpected but unsought, and that Captain Gilbert must have misunderstood the intention of his Excellency's remark with regard to the carriage of the cheetas.

80. On the subject of Lord Moira's conversation with the Vizier during their drive to the review in cantonments, on the morning of the 31st of October, it seems unnecessary to make any remark. His Excellency subsequently mentioned to me the attempts of both in the carriage to make themselves mutually understood, and we breakfasted in a body at the Residency, where nothing but the utmost cordiality towards me appeared in the conduct of the Vizier, whom I invited to dine with me in the evening, totally unsuspecting, of course, of what the interview of the evening was to produce.

81. The particulars of Mr. Ricketts' conference with the Vizier about noon of the 31st of October are distinctly related by that gentleman; and regarding those I shall only remark, that Mr. Ricketts' deputation to the Vizier, as proceeding on Captain Gilbert's report, might be expected to produce a result which should tally exactly with the former, and that the conviction in his Excellency's mind of Lord Moira's displeasure against me must have been strengthened, instead of being impaired, by the nature of Mr. Ricketts' communication,

as has indeed been established beyond a doubt by Mr. Ricketts's subsequent report, in conjunction with Mr. Swinton and yourself, of the genuine sentiments of the Vizier, declared at your conference with his Excellency, which took place on the 4th of November.

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82. This latter is a document, in my opinion, so convincing and so entirely conclusive in favour of every fact which I have stated, and of every inference which I have drawn with a reference to the recent transactions, that I might here conclude my narrative with safety, and with perfect reliance on the justice of every unprejudiced reader, for a complete vindication of my conduct in all the particulars that have been noticed by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General, and in the papers to which his minute refers.

83. Before concluding, however, I shall state a few further particulars which were brought to my knowledge subsequently to the exhibition and retraction of the Vizier's most extraordinary charges, and since the Governor-General's departure from Lucknow.

84. It appears that his Excellency was induced to believe, by the repeated assurances of Hukeem Mehdee, supported by Mr. Clarke and Captain McLeod, and particularly by the inference which he drew from the deputation of Captain Gilbert and Mr. Ricketts, that the principal object of Lord Moira's visit to Lucknow was to establish the grounds of a prejudice which he had long entertained against me, connected with my proceedings at this Court in the time of his Excellency's father. That his Lordship was satisfied, further, of the fidelity and attachment of Hukeem Mehdee, and disposed to support his pretensions to the office of Minister of Oude; more particularly in opposition to Mirza Jāfer, whom his Lordship disliked very much in consequence of my recommendation. That Mr. Ricketts, his Lordship's confidential Secretary, was also favourable to Hukeem Mehdee, and particularly hostile to me and to the sons of Mirza Jāfer, and that I was an object of envy and aversion to all the principal persons in the suite of the Governor-General. That his Excellency had nothing to do but to exhibit some complaints against me, which his Lordship would gladly receive and act on without investigation, and that the appointment of Hukeem Mehdee, or any other person unconnected with me or with Mirza Jāfer, whom the Vizier might select for his Minister, would immediately follow his nomination. That the office of Resident should be filled by a gentleman to whom his Excellency might be partial, and who would consult his pleasure in all things; and that the beating of the nobut (a large drum) over the new gateway of the palace, which appears to have been an object of some importance to the Vizier, and which he had hesitated from delicacy to mention to me, should form a spontaneous suggestion of the Governor-General at the conference fixed for the 31st of October, when the charges against me should be given in. Those charges were accordingly prepared by Hukeem Mehdee, as I am disposed to believe, though unquestionably with the knowledge and advice of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, the latter of whom is asserted by the Vizier to have given them into his hands, while Hukeem Mehdee most positively ascribes the preparation of the papers to Mr. Clarke in concurrence with Captain McLeod, by whom some of the charges were suggested.

85. The manner of the exposure of the intrigue, and the circumstances which led the Vizier to so early a recantation of his absurdity, remain to be explained, and are as follow, related to me by the Minister, and confirmed by the statement of his Sovereign.

86. The result of the conference at the Residency on the evening of the 31st of October would appear to have greatly disappointed the expectations of his Excellency the Vizier, and to have utterly falsified the statements of Hukeem Mehdee and his English coadjutors. His Excellency saw no satisfaction evinced in the countenance of the Governor-General at receiving those charges against the Resident which were stated to form the principal object of his Lordship's visit to Lucknow. An immediate assurance of my removal, without any investigation of the charges, which his Excellency had been taught to expect, was alike incompatible with the public justice of the Governor-General and with the
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private virtue of Lord Moira. His Lordship's prejudice against me, the effect of the misrepresentation of my enemies and of his ignorance of the native character, could go no farther than to inspire him with a desire of ascertaining the truth, of correcting my errors if established, and doing justice to my motives if they were pure. He received the charges in silence, or with an assurance merely that they should be taken into consideration, and justice impartially rendered. The nomination of Hukeem Mehdee to be Minister instead of receiving the immediate confirmation of Lord Moira, was rejected in unqualified terms, on the just and obvious grounds of that person's known enmity to the British Government and the general unworthiness of his character. The trifling affair of the nobut, too, instead of being distinguished by his Lordship's particular notice, in anticipation of his Excellency's desire, was explained away in an instant by a personal reference to me; thus indicating, in one instance at least, that my veracity was a natural test for the Governor-General to recur to where his ear had not previously been abused, and establishing to his Excellency's conviction that the assurances of Hukeem Mehdee and his fellows were unauthorized by the Governor-General, and dictated by their personal views. His Excellency further, on quitting the scene of the conference, aware of what he had been doing and seeing me in conversation with you, paid particular attention to my countenance, and saw expressions in it which he supposed to proceed from my knowledge of the purport of his charges, my inward consciousness of their falsehood, my confidence in the result of their investigation, and from a mixed feeling of indignation and compassion towards himself for the ingratitude and absurdity of his conduct.

87. I confess that some portion of those feelings was passing in my mind at the time, though the foolish complaint about the nobut was all that had then been explained to me. You added, to the best of my recollection, that there were a number of other matters of complaint, which I should be informed of in due time; and this partial information from you, connected with the appearance of Mr. Clarke, who had attended his Excellency, self-invited to my house, and was then strutting up and down the room with an air of remarkable consequence, gave a feeling of indignation to my mind, which my face may very probably have portrayed.

88. On the Vizier's getting up to take leave, I was either out of the way or did not come forward to attend him; and Lord Moira, with his usual consideration in matters of personal etiquette, having called for me, as the master of the house, to attend my guest to his carriage, this circumstance, I have since understood, formed another disappointment and a source of remorse to the Vizier, who expected the Resident elect, or his Lordship's confidential Secretary, to assume my place on that occasion. His hand trembled while in mine, and he appeared to be generally agitated, but said nothing at parting with me, and I certainly said nothing to his Excellency, save the usual compliment at taking leave.

89. Agha Meer, who was perfectly acquainted with the origin and progress of the intrigue, and with all the parties concerned in it, but had neither power, nor perhaps inclination at that time to defeat it, and far less, I can confidently assert, any hope of advantage from its exposure, proceeded from the Residency, as he was always in the habit of doing, to the house of my head Moonshee, Alee Nuckee Khan, where the business of the evening was talked over, and my Moonshee became partially informed of the nature of the charges or complaints which the Vizier had presented to the Governor-General. The Moonshee very naturally observed to Agha Meer, that both his master and himself must be aware of their utter falsehood and absurdity, and the certainty of the exposure of both, when the matter should be properly investigated.

90. Agha Meer, after this conversation, took leave of my Moonshee for the night, and went home to his house in the city, whence next morning, at the usual hour, he attended his master for orders, and found him, as he reported to me, in a state of agitation and terror, occasioned, as his Excellency declared, by reflection on the occurrences of the evening. Agha Meer, although inwardly rejoiced at his Excellency's repentance of a conduct which he had reprobated as ungrateful and unworthy, yet aware of his master's disposition and of the proper method

method of treating it, endeavoured at first to encourage him by assurances of Lord Moira's support. "What signifies the displeasure of Major Baillie," said Agha Meer, "since he can no longer remain at Lucknow. We can tell our own story when he departs; and, by the blessing of God, your Excellency is an independent and powerful prince, supported by the Governor-General, the king of kings, whom no person can resist nor oppose."—"But whence this support," said his Excellency; "Lord Moira gave me no such assurance. He did not appear pleased by my complaints; he rejected expressly my proposal for the appointment of Hukeem Mehdee to be Minister; and with regard to the nobut he observed that a reference should be made to Major Baillie. When we came out, too, I observed Major Baillie, to whom Mr. Adam had been speaking, as confident and as totally unconcerned as if nothing had passed to displease him: and yet it is obvious that he was displeased, for he would not come to hand me down stairs till Lord Moira desired him to do so, when he must have seen my regret and confusion. I can never look him in the face, far less can I repeat in his presence the contents of that horrible paper."

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91. Agha Meer was now satisfied, as he states, of his Sovereign's cordial contrition for the gross impropriety of his conduct, and his desire of a reconciliation with me. He naturally, therefore, changed his ground, and applauded and encouraged the disposition which he would in vain have attempted to excite in a mind like his Excellency the Vizier's, till his own reflections had led to it. He regretted that his Excellency had been misled by the false and interested representations of his ancient enemy, Hukeem Mehdee, and those fawning Feringees (as he called them) who had brought his Excellency into trouble. He painted in lively colours the tried friendship of the Resident on a number of former occasions as well as since his Excellency's accession; my good name among the English gentlemen as well as the natives of India, which might have prevented the Governor-General from removing me, notwithstanding his personal dislike; and finally, the benevolence of my disposition, as he termed it, which had always led me to forgive the offences of my bitterest enemies, instancing particularly Hukeem Mehdee, whom I had taken into favour myself on the death of the late Vizier, though his former practices were known to me, and had even interceded with his Excellency in his behalf. "Be assured," said Agha Meer to his Excellency, "that you have no reason to doubt the ready forgiveness of Major Baillie for any thing you may have done to displease him; more particularly when informed of the circumstances which induced you to act as you have done. Besides, it is possible," he added, "that Major Baillie may still be ignorant of the contents of the paper which you gave in; and, if you please, I will go to him now with the usual message of friendly enquiry from your Excellency, and endeavour to find out what he knows and thinks of the proceedings of the evening."—"Go immediately," said his Excellency to Agha Meer, "and tell the Resident the whole of the truth. Tell him how I was misled by Clarke and McLeod, that they were the sole instigators of my conduct, that they forced these papers into my hands and insisted on my giving them to Lord Moira, that they had been practising upon me with this view before I left Lucknow, and on my way to Cawnpore, and while there, and that I constantly resisted their attempts, till they brought Captain Gilbert to me with a message from the Governor-General, which at length induced me to listen to their false and malicious assurances, and to give in the papers which they prepared. Tell the Resident, further, that he has long been my uncle and friend, that I repent with sorrow and shame my ungrateful conduct towards him, and am ready to make every reparation. Go, then, with the Resident to Lord Moira, or to his Lordship's secretaries, and tell them the whole of the truth, and bring me back those horrible papers that the Resident may be prevented from seeing them."

92. Agha Meer came accordingly to my house, but found that I was out riding, and heard that I was to breakfast at Constantia. He therefore went to my Moonshee, and explained to him the nature of the message with which he was charged by the Vizier. My Moonshee very properly observed, that the matter was too important to be delayed, and suggested Agha Meer's following me to Constantia to deliver the message from his master. With what follows you

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you are as well acquainted as I am. I was sitting with you and Mr. Swinton when Agha Meer was announced to be in waiting. I came out to the door to receive him, but refused to listen to his conversation the moment the drift of it was perceived. He then begged to be conducted to you and Mr. Swinton, to whom, as well as to me, the message of his master was to be conveyed. I conducted him into your presence accordingly, took my leave, and returned to the Residency, where shortly after I was followed by Agha Meer, and again refused to receive the communication which he offered to me from his master, desiring that it should be brought to me in writing. The letter of the 1st of November was accordingly brought to me in the evening, and the contents of it, with the feelings of horror which they naturally excited in my mind, were communicated to you for Lord Moira's information immediately.

93. Next morning I carried the letter to Constantia, and had an audience of the Governor-General on the subject of it. His Lordship must doubtless recollect the purport of our conversation on that occasion and on the following day, at Constantia. I lamented in forcible terms the association of English gentlemen, my acquaintances and friends as I supposed them, in the designs and intrigues of Hukeem Mehdee, for the purpose of subverting my influence and of frustrating the views of the Government, the sole and legitimate objects to which my influence had ever been applied. I regretted the encouragement which had been afforded to the base designs of my enemies by his Lordship's ignorance of the native character, and of the intrigues, which had now been developed, to weaken his confidence in me, and which had occasioned so much trouble and vexation. On his Lordship's evincing a disposition to vindicate the conduct of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, which I described as in direct opposition to the positive orders of Government, I went so far as to state with submission, that agreeably to the view which his Lordship had taken of their proceedings, I must consider them as authorized spies on the conduct of his Lordship's representative, a mortification to which I humbly presumed that his Lordship could never mean to subject me. When his Lordship expressed a desire to confront those gentlemen with the Nawaub, I most readily concurred in the suggestion, and instead of throwing obstacles in the way of an investigation of the matter of complaint against myself, I encouraged it by every argument in my power. With reference to Mr. Law and Mr. De L'Etang, I entirely concurred with his Lordship in acquitting them of any active share in the intrigue, though I considered Mr. Law as apprized of it; and with regard to Mr. De L'Etang, in particular, I stated what his Lordship has recorded. I must, however, be permitted to remark, with all due deference to his Lordship, that I am not aware of any inference to be drawn from this circumstance, which could militate against the positive proof that has appeared of the association of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, from the commencement of the intrigue until its exposure.

94. The nomination by his Excellency the Vizier of his old and confidential servant, Agha Meer, to the office of his Minister, is the only circumstance that remains to be noticed in this narrative; and I am induced to advert to it solely by the allusion in the Governor-General's minute to an intrigue, more efficacious than the first, to set aside the complaints against the Resident, the reward of which was the elevation of Agha Meer to a station of which he was unworthy.

95. I beg of you to recollect the substance of your letter to me, conveying the commands of the Governor-General, that in compliance with the desire of the Vizier I should assist him in the choice of a Minister. This letter was written and received on the 6th of November, some days after the exposure of the intrigue, and when all discussions regarding it had ceased; my answer is probably in your possession. I stated the greatest reluctance to advise the Vizier on this point, and the natural ground of that reluctance, my conviction that the only person worthy of the trust was a person whom his Lordship rejected by reason of his connexion with me. I further entreated, in my answer, that yourself, or some other of the secretaries, should be joined in the mission with me. This request was declined by Lord Moira, in terms the most gratifying to my feelings, as expressive of a renewal of his confidence, and in obedience to his Lordship's command, I promised to wait on his Excellency and report the result of our conference.

96. That

96. That result was announced to the Governor-General in a direct address from his Excellency, and it was the only result to be expected. Mirza Jafer, the most respectable person from talents and birth, and the most desirable from attachment to our interests, that was then to be found in this capital, was proscribed, or supposed to be proscribed, by the Governor-General's displeasure. Hukeem Mehdee had been rejected by his Lordship. Rajah Bhurwanee Pershaud, and Rāee Dya-Krishen, were the only two revenue officers of note who were known to his Excellency or to me. The first had been a fugitive for many years, in balance to the State, and had just been recalled from his exile; he was known to be indebted many lacs of rupees to the bankers of Lucknow, and to have lost his credit with them, and with all descriptions of the people, by his flight while in the service of Government. These circumstances were mentioned by me, and immediately acknowledged by his Excellency as substantial reasons for rejecting him. Dya-Krishen, the next on the roll, was unexceptionable in every respect for the office of Dewan, and the Vizier's nomination of him to that office had my ready and cordial concurrence. For the situation of Naib there was no one. The person named Skeikh Imām Bukhsh, who is referred to in Lord Moira's minute, is a man who had served the late Almass Alec Khan for many years as a Vakeel, in attendance first on the commanding-officer at Cawnpore, and afterwards associated with a Hindoo of greater respectability than himself in attendance at the Resident's durbar. The mention of his name by his Excellency was suggested, as I understand, by Mr. Clarke, between whom and Imām Bukhsh there was a friendship. But the office intended for Imām Bukhsh was merely that of deputy to Hukeem Mehdee in the management of some subordinate department, when the latter should be called to the station of Minister; and it is remarkable, that Imām Bukhsh now actually holds the same office under the present Minister, Agha Meer.

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97. There was obviously, therefore, no person of any distinction or note under the former Government of Oude whom the present Vizier could select for the office of his principal Minister; and on my calling his Excellency's attention to the three essential qualities which appeared to me indispensable in the person to be selected for this office, namely, first, attachment to his Excellency's person, established to such a degree as should merit his entire confidence; secondly, that innate principle of justice and benevolence, which should lead the Minister to restrain oppression and promote the happiness of the people; and thirdly, that conviction of the unity and identity of the interests of his Excellency's Government and ours, which would ensure his unremitting endeavours to preserve harmony and cordiality between them, his Excellency immediately observed to me, that the first of the qualities which I mentioned could only be found in Agha Meer, whom he had known and brought up from his infancy, and that he believed him to possess the other two. I replied, that I saw no objection to Agha Meer, if such were his Excellency's sentiments, except the want of former influence and consideration among his subjects, and of experience in matters of state. "The first," said his Excellency, "I can give him; and as to the second, he may gradually acquire it, and will profit in the meantime by your advice, and by the knowledge and experience of Dya-Krishen." I then suggested to his Excellency, that the name of Agha Meer should be noticed among others in his letter to the Governor-General, and that the decision should be left to his Lordship.

98. The foregoing is all that occurred, to the best of my recollection and belief, at my conference with his Excellency the Vizier, which was sought, as I understood, by his Excellency, and prescribed to me by Lord Moira's command, on the subject of the appointment of Ministers. If I have erred in any part of the statement, a reference to his Excellency will correct me: and with this statement I conclude the narrative and vindication of my proceedings as Resident at the Court of Lucknow, during the eventful and memorable period, which has first served to call in question the merits of my political services to the Honourable East-India Company, at a time when I naturally expected the most gratifying marks of approbation for the upright discharge of my duties and successful termination of my labours to improve the Government of Oude.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
29th April 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

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3 Nov. 1815.

Letter
from Resident at
Lucknow.

P. S. With a reference to the date of this letter, it seems proper to offer an explanation of the causes of my delay to transmit it.

The chief of those causes I must avow to have been the return of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General to this neighbourhood, and a natural apprehension in my mind of that event's giving rise to some new intrigues and conspiracies of a nature similar to the former, which have actually arisen from it as I foresaw, and have occasioned a great deal of trouble and vexation to me as well as detriment to the public interests.

Those intrigues, however, have hitherto had an obvious tendency to corroborate, rather than weaken, the conclusions which are drawn in my narrative, and which manifestly flow from the facts and circumstances that are stated in it. The Minister of the Vizier's Government, whom Lord Moira supposed to be the origin of an intrigue more efficacious than that which gave rise to the complaints against the Resident, is no longer in power at this Court, is an object of his Sovereign's aversion, and has been so for several months, in consequence of the intrigues of his enemies, encouraged by the fickleness of his master's disposition, and supported, as I have reason to believe, by native emissaries, as formerly, in the suite of the Governor-General, who have been enabled by fortuitous circumstances to impress the Vizier with a belief that the Minister is disliked by his Lordship, and that a number of his Excellency's measures shortly after his accession to the musnud, which are ascribed to my influence over his mind, although prescribed to me by the orders of the Government, have been disapproved by the Governor-General. Yet, under all these unfavourable circumstances, no surmise of any thing like the intrigue which was ascribed to the unfortunate Agha Meer has hitherto come to my knowledge, and his Excellency the Vizier, though we have actually degraded his Minister, placed his person under rigorous restraint, and disclaimed a number of measures which the Minister adopted by his command, has never yet been prevailed on to disavow the sincerity of his repentance and recantation of his absurd complaints against me, nor his original exposure of the authors of them. On the other hand, his recall of Mirza Hajee to favor, the earnestness with which he solicited the continuance of Mr. Wilson in his household, and the tenor of his letters on those subjects, have a manifest tendency to demonstrate the truth of my solemn declaration, that his original employment of Mirza Hajee, and his ostensible appointment of Mr. Wilson to the office of his personal surgeon, were the acts of his free will, uninfluenced by any suggestion on my part or even by a wish for my gratification.

Another cause of the delay, which candour impels me to acknowledge, has proceeded from a natural desire, that the final decision in this country, on a question of such importance to my character, should involve the collective opinion of all the members of the Government, as well as its illustrious head, whose perfect confidence and good opinion, though I have laboured assiduously to acquire them by the strictest obedience to his commands, have hitherto, I am sorry to think, been refused to my ardent wishes, in consequence of some unhappy prepossessions which it is the object of this narrative to remove.

It occurs to me, on the present occasion, to submit my humble request, that in the case of the failure of this narrative to produce in the minds of the Government that conviction which it seems calculated to inspire, the narrative and all the documents which it refers to be transmitted to the Honourable the Court of Directors, for the purpose of enabling that Court to form a judgment on the merits of my conduct in the arduous and important situation in which the Court was pleased to confirm me as a reward for my former services, and the duties of which I have discharged, during a period of eight years and upwards, to the best of my judgment and ability, with integrity, zeal, and success.

20th September 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Resident.

The following minutes of the Governor-General and the Members of Council having been read in circulation, are ordered to be here recorded.

MINUTE

MINUTE of the GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

Minute of
Governor-General,
31 Oct. 1815.

The statement which I verbally made in Council to my colleagues, that my feelings could never allow me to hold confidential intercourse with Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie after perusing the document which has just been circulated, will have prepared them to expect from me a proposition for his removal from the Residency of Lucknow. Indeed I think my colleagues must be sensible that the general tone of the paper, even without considering the incorrectness of narration, is so offensive, as to render it wholly unfit for me to continue him as my representative at the Court of Oude. I therefore propose that the powers of Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie as Resident be withdrawn, that he be ordered to leave the dominions of the Nawaub Vizier as soon as the necessary preparations for his departure can be completed, and that Richard Strachey, Esq., be transferred from the situation of Resident at the Court of Dowlut Rao Scindiah to that of Resident at Lucknow. Should the health of Mr. Strachey not permit him to take immediate charge of his destined office, I move that the Honourable Edward Gardner be summoned from Kemaon to conduct temporarily the business of Oude.

31st October 1815.

(Signed) MOIRA.

MINUTE of MR. EDMONSTONE and MR. DOWDESWELL.

Mr. Edmonstone's
and
Mr. Dowdeswell's
Minute,
31 Oct. 1815.

The Governor-General having been pleased to propose the removal of Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie from the office of Resident at Lucknow, on the grounds distinctly stated in his Lordship's minute, we beg leave to express our unqualified concurrence in that measure. It is impossible, indeed, to refuse our assent to the expediency of Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie's relinquishment of the situation of Resident at Lucknow. Residents at foreign Courts are considered by those Courts as the representatives of the Governor-General; and such, in fact, they are, since by the nature of his office, the Governor-General takes the lead in the conduct of political affairs, corresponds individually with the princes and chiefs to whom the Residents are accredited, and is the ostensible authority with which foreign States are connected. It is therefore indispensably requisite, that the Residents at foreign Courts should possess the entire confidence of the Governor-General, and it is impossible not to admit that the mere existence of a state of circumstances such as is most unhappily exhibited in the narrative of Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie independently of any consideration whatever connected with the character of his conduct, or the tone and language of his narrative, renders it impracticable to continue, through his agency, the transaction of affairs between the Government and the Court of Lucknow.

31st October 1815.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE.
G. DOWDESWELL.

MINUTE of MR. SETON.

Mr. Seton's
Minute,
31 Oct. 1815.

On the grounds stated by Mr. Edmonstone and Mr. Dowdeswell, I perfectly agree in opinion with those gentlemen, that the office of Political Resident can neither be held with propriety, nor the functions thereof be discharged with efficiency or with benefit to the public interests, by a person who does not possess the full confidence of the Governor-General; and as it is evident from the Right Honourable the Governor-General's minute of this date, that Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, whose letter of the 29th of April I have been unable to peruse without a feeling of astonishment and of painful regret, has lost that confidence, I beg leave to express my entire concurrence in the expediency of the arrangement proposed by his Lordship.

31st October 1815.

(Signed) A. SETON.

The

The following orders, dated the 31st ultimo, having been circulated, approved, and issued since the last meeting of Council, are ordered to be here recorded.

Ordered, That the following letter be addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, and that he be furnished with a copy of the English draft, below recorded, of the Governor-General's letter to the Nawaub Vizier.

Letter
from Secretary to
Government.

To Lieutenant Colonel Baillie, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 29th April.

2. You will hereafter receive a communication on the subject of your despatch. For the present, I am instructed to state, that the tone and spirit which pervade that document, render it impracticable for the Governor-General to maintain with you that confidential intercourse, which the good of the public service requires should subsist between the head of the Government and his representative at the Court of a foreign prince. The Governor-General in Council has therefore thought proper to remove you from the office of Resident at Lucknow, and to desire that you will withdraw from that Court as soon after you shall be relieved from the duties of the office as may be consistent with your personal accommodation.

3. His Lordship in Council has been pleased to appoint Mr. Richard Strachey to be Resident at Lucknow, and you will deliver over charge of the office to Mr. Strachey on his arrival.

4. You will receive from the Persian Secretary a letter addressed to his Excellency the Vizier by the Governor-General, announcing the arrangement above stated, and you will be pleased to convey it to his Excellency, either personally, or in such other mode as you may deem advisable. An English copy of that letter is enclosed for your information.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
31st October 1815.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

Ordered, That a letter to the address of the Nawaub Vizier, in conformity with the terms of the following draft, be prepared in the office of the Persian Secretary to the Government, for the seal and signature of the Governor-General, and be transmitted without delay to Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie.

Letter from
Governor-General.

To His Excellency the Vizier. (Written the 31st October 1815.)

A necessity having arisen for relieving Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie from the office of Resident at your Excellency's Court on the part of the British Government, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I have appointed Mr. Richard Strachey, a gentleman of rank and distinguished reputation in the civil service of the Honourable Company, to succeed Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie.

Mr. Strachey has represented the British Government at the Court of Dowlat Rao Scindiah for some years past, and has given me entire satisfaction in that capacity; and my selection of him for the honourable and confidential office of Resident at your Excellency's Court is founded on my experience of his ability, judgment, and personal disposition, which warrants a firm expectation that his ministry will conduce equally to the personal satisfaction of your Excellency, to the advantage of your Government in all points on which you may be pleased to consult him, and to the consolidation and improvement of the combined interests of the two States. Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie will have the honour of taking leave of your Excellency as soon after Mr. Strachey's arrival at Lucknow as may be consistent with his personal convenience.

EXTRACT

EXTRACT BENGAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS,

The 2d December 1815.

To J. Adam, Esq., Secretary to Government, in the Secret and Political Department.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
2 Dec. 1815.

Letter from
Acting Resident at
Lucknow.

Sir :

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 31st ultimo, announcing my removal from the station of Resident at the Court of Lucknow, and containing an English copy of a letter addressed by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General to his Excellency the Vizier on that occasion. The original Persian letter, under his Lordship's signature and seal, was received from the Persian department on the 11th instant, and I had the honour of presenting it to the Vizier at the Residency on the morning of the 14th instant.

2. I have this day received from his Excellency, and transmitted to the Persian Secretary, an answer to the Governor-General's letter, conceived in terms that are gratifying to my feelings, because I am satisfied, and indeed it must be obvious, that the Vizer's expressions with a reference to me, on this occasion, are genuine, and convey the real sentiments of his Excellency's mind. He has my best wishes for the honour and prosperity of his Government, and for his personal welfare and happiness.

3. I await with considerable anxiety the arrival of my successor at this Court, and I propose proceeding to the Presidency by water immediately on my being relieved. It is my intention, with the sanction of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, to embark for England, on furlough, by the first opportunity that may offer after my arrival at the Presidency.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
18th November 1815.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE,
Acting Resident.

Ordered, That the following translation of the letter from the Nawaub Vizier to the Governor-General, transmitted by Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie to the Persian Secretary to the Government, and referred to in the above despatch, be here recorded.

From his Excellency the Nawaub Vizier. (Received the 28th November 1815.)

Letter
from the Vizier.

I have had the honour to receive your Lordship's letter of the 31st October, announcing to me the recall of Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie from the office of Resident at my Court, and the appointment of Mr Richard Strachey to that situation, and stating that your Lordship's selection of Mr. Strachey was founded on your experience of that gentleman's ability, judgment, and disposition, which lead you confidently to expect that he will discharge the duties of his office in such a manner as will conduce to my personal satisfaction, to the benefit of my Government in all matters, and to the advancement of the interests of the two States.

Ever since the day of my accession to the musnud of this Government and to the hereditary Vezārut, Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie has, in obedience to your Lordship's commands, and in consonance with your sincere kindness and regard, exerted himself to the utmost to promote my personal satisfaction. He has, at the same time, been active and sedulous in affording me his aid in important affairs, and has benefited my interests by his judicious advice, whenever I have had occasion to consult him; his departure is therefore a source of concern and regret to me. I am consoled, however, by the assurance which I feel of your Lordship's sincere regard, at all times and under all circumstances; and by the conviction that Mr. Strachey, both from a consideration of the ties which, as is well known to the whole world, have from of old united the two States so firmly as to occasion an absolute identity, and also in conformity with the extreme kind-

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ness which your Lordship has manifested towards me, will use all his efforts to promote the interests of the alliance, and will, according to past custom, afford me suitable aid in every thing which may conduce to the stability and weight of my power and authority, both in the affairs of my Government and in those of my household. This will always tend to strengthen the foundation of the friendship and alliance between the two States and to raise your Lordship's reputation.

I trust that, believing me, &c.

(A true translation :

(Signed) C. A. MALONEY,
Deputy Persian Secretary to Government.

Enclosures in
Bengal Political
Letter,
30 Mar. 1816.

Minute of
Governor-General,
3 Feb. 1816.

(Enclosure No. 1. in Bengal Political Letter, dated 30th March 1816.)

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S MINUTE.

1. I now proceed to lay before the Board the review of the affairs of Oude, which I expressed an intention of submitting in the minute I recorded on the 3d November last. The more imperious urgency of many of the questions we have lately had before us has alone occasioned the delay which has occurred in digesting my sentiments in this form.

2. I shall premise what may be necessary to the full explanation of the course I have all along pursued towards the Court of his Excellency the Nawab Vizier and towards our representative there, in order to guard the Honourable Court of Directors against admitting the impressions which the late Resident's letter of the 28th of April last is calculated to excite.

3. It is very irksome (because it is the task of unravelling the most singular tissue of perversions I have ever had the surprise of scrutinizing) to undertake following Major Baillie through the windings of his invariably incorrect representation. The duty is, however, incumbent on me; because, notwithstanding the shallow and exploded artifice of disclaiming the imputation which the narrative is framed to convey, the object of Major Baillie is visibly to fix upon me the charge of having endeavoured to defeat, by my countenance of underhand intrigues, those measures which I had publicly commissioned him to carry through. That course would have been a whimsical procedure for a person who had only to make the Political Secretary abrogate former instructions, or intimate to Major Baillie his exchange to another Court, or announce to him his removal from the diplomatic line altogether, had any inclination existed to stop what was in progress.

4. It was in the beginning of October 1813 that I arrived in Bengal and took upon myself the charge of this Government. The differences which had for the three preceding years subsisted between Major Baillie and his Excellency the late Vizier, and which had at times been productive of a discreditable acrimony during that period, seemed to have subsided in a reconciliation effected shortly before my arrival, and the harmony was at the time held forth to Government as affording the promise of being lasting. The hope was however delusive. The first occasion of my being called upon to take a part in the affairs of Lucknow was upon Major Baillie's representing that the good understanding he thought had been established between himself and the late Vizier was again interrupted, and that the latter had evinced a disposition to retract the concessions on his part, by which chiefly it had been brought about. The concessions were said principally to have related to the scheme of reform in his Excellency's administration, the introduction of which our Government had long endeavoured to obtain, and to which, on the occasion of the reconciliation, his Excellency was said to have consented. This reference imposed on me the labour of perusing the records of all the discussions which had antecedently taken place on the subject; and I was, of course, led to consider the whole case with peculiar attention. The Board will recollect the proceeding I adopted in consequence, and cannot but have been sensible of the motives which influenced me at the time. Major Baillie was in the situation of Minister of the British Government, and even more immediately in that of my personal representative at the Court of Oudg.

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Oude. I naturally felt disposed to afford him that high degree of confidence which the finding him in such a position was calculated to inspire, and was inclined therefore to receive my impressions with respect to the Vizier's conduct implicitly from his representation. Of the expediency, or otherwise, of the specific scheme of reform in question, I was at the time no competent judge: I knew nothing of it, except that it had been apparently an object of earnest solicitude with my predecessor in the Supreme Government to procure its introduction. I thence entered warmly into the same feelings, and in deference to the correctness of that judgment, for which I have always entertained the highest respect, conceived the measure must be one of obvious wisdom, offering a certain promise of the most solid benefits to his Excellency's dominions. I was, therefore, disposed to regard the evasive opposition which the late Vizier was said to have evinced as indicative of a perverse disposition to resist systematically the salutary counsels of the British Government, and to play loose with its agent, in a manner requiring to be repressed by a strong exertion of our authority. I accordingly drafted, with my own hand, a letter to his Excellency,* couched in terms of all the strength which such sentiments could be expected to demand, and warning him with peculiar solemnity of the destruction he might entail upon himself, by continuing to depart so contumaciously from his engagements.

5. The apparently candid answer of the late Vizier to this letter, and the nature of some of the discussions which took place upon it between his Excellency and the Resident, did, I must confess, occasion a slight revolution in my sentiments. I began to feel that I could not, in justice to his Excellency, abide implicitly by what Major Baillie, under evident impression of pique, might represent, but that, in the differences which might occur between them, it would be requisite I should consider myself placed as it were in the situation of arbiter, regarding Major Baillie only as a party. The Board will recollect, that even then I did not find reason to be fully satisfied of the uniform delicacy and propriety of Major Baillie's conduct towards his Excellency. His behaviour did not appear to me to be of that mild conciliatory cast, which would have left his Excellency without excuse for the animosity he seemed to entertain. On the contrary, I thought I observed, even in Major Baillie's own reports of what passed between his Excellency and himself, a captious disposition and a domineering tone, of themselves highly calculated to excite irritation in a prince, whose situation would naturally render him acutely jealous of his independence.

6. On my professing this sentiment, it received powerful confirmation from an assertion made to me by a person of high authority, as to what he had witnessed on the spot of the reciprocal bitterness existing between the Nawaub Vizier and the Resident.

7. Feeling, therefore, that his Excellency's ill temper towards Major Baillie was not entirely without provocation, and being sensible that the British interests at his Excellency's Court must suffer from this mutual animosity, I even at that moment entered into communication with Mr. Edmonstone upon the propriety of endeavouring to obviate the inconvenience resulting from the existing state of things by removing Major Baillie to some other Residency of equally high consideration, and thus, by an exchange honourable and not disadvantageous to him in any point of view, seeking to introduce to his Excellency's councils a representative of our interests, in whose intercourse with his Excellency a good understanding, if not a personal friendship, might prevail. I was dissuaded from the immediate adoption of this course, not by any arguments affecting its propriety, but from a consideration that the period of my departure for the Upper Provinces was not far distant, and that I should then have an opportunity of satisfying myself more fully, by personal observation, of the state of the differences between the parties, so that, in the event of my finding them entirely irreconcilable, I might take such measures as at the moment I should conceive most advisable.

8. In-

* Letter of 7th January 1814, vide page 579.

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Letter,
30 Mar. 1816.

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Governor-General,
3 Feb. 1816.

8. Influenced by the above conviction, I directed the Resident to refrain, in the interim from further pressing upon his Excellency those irritating topics of discussion which seemed sure to inflame the existing differences; and I addressed a letter to his Excellency in a strain more conciliatory than the former. The letter alluded to was that of the 25th of March, sent through the ordinary channel of the Resident. In this I signified to his Excellency that our Government never wished to impose any requisitions inconsistent with his dignity; that we had recommended a specific system of management, because its efficacy had been proved in the Honourable Company's territories, but that we could not desire to enforce on his Excellency the precise plan in question, if he thought it injurious to his credit, as all that was required was an essential, practical reform. His Excellency was requested to fashion a plan accordingly, in concert with the Resident.

9. Things were in this state when I left the Presidency, in the prosecution of my intention of making a tour through the Western Provinces. His Excellency the late Vizier died while I was on the river between Moorshedabad and Patna, an event which seemed to supersede the necessity of any particular interference in the affairs of Oude, since whatever discord existed was thought by me to have been only personal with the late Vizier and extinguished by his demise.

10. Major Baillie, in his letter of the 28th April last, attempts to account for the animosity towards himself evinced by the late Vizier, by tracing both the original differences, and the rupture subsequent to the reconciliation of the 2d October 1813, to the intrigues of men, enemies to him individually as well as hostile to the British interests in general. He naturally throws out of the account the possibility that his own conduct and behaviour should ever have given cause of offence, or that any opposition to his suggestions and propositions should have proceeded from his Excellency's conceiving them objectionable on public grounds. If the Vizier ceased to exhibit marks of personal confidence towards Major Baillie, it is because Hukeem Mehdee and his coadjutors had succeeded in exciting in his Excellency's breast suspicions with regard to Major Baillie's motives. If a measure recommended by him was opposed by his Excellency, though even one so speculative and so open to a difference of opinion as the change of a system of Government, it is held impossible the opposition should have originated in the Vizier's having really entertained contrary sentiments, or in his not being convinced by the arguments adduced. The whole is traced to some one's having poisoned his Excellency's mind, and made him suspect the object of the measure to be different from what was represented. There is, indeed, apparent in the whole of Major Baillie's reasoning, an obliquity of mind which makes him overlook the most natural mode of accounting for every thing in search of a hidden cause, frequently grounded on nothing but the most vague and inconclusive surmise. Where it is possible to assign a perverse motive, a justifiable one, though much more obvious, is passed over as wholly inapplicable.

11. This disposition has led him into many inconsistencies, which, in order to my placing before the Council my own view of the events he relates, it will be necessary to expose in part.

12. Great parade is made by Major Baillie of his perfect acquaintance with the language and forms of conversation and writing in use amongst the higher classes of natives. He would leave it to be inferred from this, that his manners were necessarily conciliatory; and would have us suppose, that by means of such personal advantages, he had succeeded in exciting in his Excellency's breast an unusual degree of attachment towards himself. It may have been so; but the same colloquial and epistolary facility by which he supposes he may have been enabled to excite this attachment, might also have been the source of offence. Every communication between Major Baillie and the late Vizier would seem to have been direct, and generally to have been conducted in an interview from which others were excluded; each conference must therefore have made its own impression. The reliance of Major Baillie on his correct possession of a polished idiom was likely to betray him beyond the exact line of established usage,

usage, and it is ridiculous to trace to any subsequent suggestions of other feelings of his Excellency's mind, which so much more probably resulted from the manner or matter of these direct communications. Indeed, from the nature of the late Vizier's character, there is reason to believe that in the conduct of business, and especially of affairs having relation to his connection with the British Government, he acted almost entirely upon his own judgment, and lent his confidence to no one so implicitly, as the supposition that the disagreement with the Resident arose from the under-hand influence of his advisers would imply. Unless, therefore, some very satisfactory reasons should be adduced, I confess I should not readily entertain the supposition of such secret influence, or abandon the suspicion I formed, even before leaving the Presidency, with respect to the cause of these differences, *viz.* that there must have been in the communications of Major Baillie something of style or matter to have given grounds for his Excellency's personal dislike.

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13. Let us, however, examine the nature of the arguments adduced in support of Major Baillie's assertion, that the late Vizier's disagreement with him originated in intrigue. The principal one is, the high degree of confidence, he alleges he experienced from his Excellency, prior to the introduction to his councils of those whom he suspects to have undermined it. If this were the case, it would undoubtedly be a very strong circumstance. I have been induced to look back a little into the proceedings of the time, in order to see if the assertion be borne out by them. I confess I am not satisfied upon this point.

14. I have not found that Major Baillie's influence was paramount with his Excellency before the introduction to his councils of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, the supposed author and head of the intrigue, any more than subsequently to that event. This person is admitted to have had no influence before the latter end of 1810; but long before that period, indeed even from so early a date as 1808, many questions had arisen between the Resident and his Excellency, in which, notwithstanding the frequent exertion of the most earnest solicitation, the acquiescence of the latter could never be obtained. The claims preferred by Major Baillie in behalf of his own Moonshee were of this description; so also were those in behalf of Hoosein Alee Khan and some of his Excellency's defaulting Aumils. Indeed, many similar cases of disregard to the Resident's entreaties might be adduced, which occurred long before Hukeem Mehdee was called to the Presence.

15. I do not wish, however, to go beyond the question of reform, to which, in his letter of the 28th of April, Major Baillie appears studiously to have confined his remarks; as if desirous to show that his efforts in favour of this measure had been the sole cause of his Excellency's froward opposition, because it was the one most immediately of a public nature, and in which Government had the dearest interest.

16. It would appear, that the specific plan of reform respecting which there was so much altercation, was proposed to his Excellency at the beginning of 1810. Very long and warm discussions took place even at that time, although Hukeem Mehdee did not obtain influence till some time after.* Indeed, at the period of those discussions he would appear to have been in high favour with the Resident; insomuch that, besides having recently obtained, by his recommendation, an important revenue situation, he was specially recommended for further promotion; nay, even in the course of the discussions in question, his exemplary conduct was quoted as an argument in favour of the Resident's having a voice in future appointments. If, therefore, the discussions on his Excellency's part were then conducted in the same spirit as those from which the personal enmity and perversely hostile disposition are inferred; if his Excellency shewed himself impressed with the same sentiments at that time as are said to have occasioned his subsequent breach with the Resident, Hukeem Mehdee, or any intrigues he could have formed, may fairly be acquitted of having

* Par. 29 Resident's Letter, 8th April 1810.

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having inspired his Excellency with such propensities, this person's imputed influence being acknowledged to have commenced subsequently.

17. I have referred with particular care to the former proceedings,* in which the Resident's report of what passed on that occasion is recorded, in order to satisfy myself on this point.

18. In Major Baillie's letter of the 28th of April last, the Vizier's invincible opposition to the plan of reform, and his personal animosity against himself, are attributed to a suspicion Hukeem Mehdee Khan is said to have instilled into his Excellency's mind, that Major Baillie was seeking personal objects in urging the immediate introduction of the reform, and was endeavouring by its means to establish his own authority in the affairs of Oude, and to increase his own patronage and reputation. The question therefore is, whether in the discussions prior to the establishment of Hukeem Mehdee's influence, did his Excellency shew that he entertained a similar suspicion; for if there be reason to suppose he did, such an instance can be in no way attributable to this man's influence, but must have been the offspring of his Excellency's own mind, resulting from the impressions left by the manner or nature of the Resident's own communications.

19. In order to determine this, let us look to the ground on which his Excellency then opposed what was suggested. The scheme of reform enjoined to his Excellency in a letter direct from the Governor-General was shortly this: Instead of farming districts to Aumils, as had been the practice heretofore, it was recommended to his Excellency to appoint officers of Government to ascertain the actual assets and resources of the country, and to conclude mofussil settlements on the part of Government directly with the Zemindars. The salaries of the officers were to be placed on a scale proportionate with their responsibility. This was all our Government recommended for the detail. His Excellency was referred to the Resident. The Vizier objected generally to the plan, that he knew of no satisfactory mode of ascertaining the assets of every estate in his territories; nor was there any class of men whom he could trust with the responsibility of making mofussil settlements, for that he was without the means of ascertaining precisely the characters and qualities of men. At all events, his Excellency urged, the new system could not be commenced upon until the periods of his existing engagements with the farmers might expire.

20. The Resident undertook to rebut these objections, stating that the mofussil assets were to be ascertained by a sufficient number of officers established so as to check one another. For this purpose he recommended Ameens for Zillahs with Tuhseeldars under them for portions of territory yielding a lac of rupees. With respect to the want of persons to fill such offices, he said he was ready to furnish them. "Many able and upright men are to be found, and I will cheerfully take it upon myself to procure as many as may be necessary."

21. The Resident remonstrated against delaying the introduction of the reform until the existing engagements might expire, in the following words: "Having originally remonstrated against these engagements with the farmers, having repeatedly and earnestly represented to your Excellency the ruinous consequences they would produce, and the failure of my representations having occasioned the Governor-General's remonstrance on the subject, it follows, that your Excellency's ~~consignment~~ ^{commitment} of those muhals, under the engagements now referred to, was in direct opposition to my advice and to the counsels of the British Government; and consequently, that your Excellency's adherence to those engagements, or refusal to comply with my suggestions of reform on the grounds of them, would imply, which God forbid, a departure from your engagements with our Government. I leave it to
" your

* Proceedings, 3d May 1810.

“ your Excellency to judge which of the two considerations is most important.”*

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22. To such a supersession of his existing engagements, as well as to allowing the Resident to have a voice in the appointment of his Ameens (a privilege which he distinctly claimed),† the Vizier, as may well be surmised objected strongly; and notwithstanding that Major Baillie, in order to subdue the repugnance testified by the Vizier, proceeded to the adoption of a tone of remonstrance bordering on absolute rudeness, still his Excellency's acquiescence was not to be obtained. Both these points were therefore made the subject of a reference to the Supreme Government. The Resident writing to his Excellency: “ With reference to the selection and appointment of Ameens with my previous knowledge and concurrence, as your Excellency has been pleased to resist my earnest and repeated suggestions of the propriety and eminent advantages of this truly salutary measure, it only remains for me to suggest, that your Excellency will detail the grounds of your dissent to this important proposition, in the answer to the Governor-General's letter or in a letter to myself.”

23. Here we see a direct struggle on the part of the Resident for a share of the patronage. We see his Excellency resisting it, obviously because he considered it in that light. Indeed, his argument was, that the allowing a voice to the Resident would tend to the ruin of his own authority and character in the eyes of his subjects, while officers not exclusively indebted to himself for their appointments would not exclusively obey or look up to himself. It must be evident from the Vizier's assuming such a ground of argument, that he then entertained suspicions that it was Major Baillie's wish to interfere with his authority, and establish a more direct influence in the administration of the affairs of Oude than had yet been effected by any British representative at his Court. The opinion that it was a personal object of Major Baillie's, must necessarily have been confirmed by the result of the reference to our Government of the two subjects of difference above noticed. Such a conclusion must have been the natural result of his Excellency's observing, that on neither point did Major Baillie meet the support of the Government he represented.

24. On the above grounds I think it may very safely be assumed, that his Excellency's suspicion of the interested nature of Major Baillie's views, in pressing upon him with such eagerness the immediate introduction of the plan of reform, was antecedent to the establishment of Hukeem Mehdee's influence, and consequently not attributable to any intrigues he could have set on foot. A reference to the same proceedings which have afforded the grounds of this conclusion will exhibit, even in the Resident's own report of the nature of his communications, much which is calculated to excite offence; and further, will afford good reason to believe that his Excellency the late Vizier was, even at that period, not free from the unfavourable impression. I cannot, therefore, but consider the causes to which Major Baillie has, in his letter of the 28th of April, endeavoured to trace his disagreement with the Vizier, to be in direct contradiction to what the past proceedings exhibit, consequently destitute of any satisfactory presumption. The more full consideration of the question which has now been forced upon me by the nature of the assertions advanced in the narrative in question,

* The Vizier returned the paper from which this is an extract, with an earnest request that the imputation here conveyed, of a breach of engagements with our Government, might be withdrawn. It was sent back with this word “ and ” changed into “ or in other words.” After the Vizier had replied to the paper a conference followed, the opening of which is thus reported: “ I commenced the discussions of his replies to my observations with an expression of my sincere regret for having consented, at his earnest request, to withdraw the imputation of a breach of engagements conveyed on most obvious grounds.” (These surely were not the conciliatory manners which produced the personal attachment to Major Baillie.)

† In a note delivered in the course of these discussions, Major Baillie writes: “ Be pleased to inform me of the names and characters, as far as known to you, of the persons thus to be employed (as Ameens) in offices of so high importance, that I also may endeavour to investigate their character, and submit my opinion for your consideration, after which let them be ordered to their districts, under written instructions for their guidance, a draft of which I shall have the honour of submitting for your approval.”

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question, has only confirmed me in the opinion I originally and have all along entertained, viz. that his Excellency's animosity against Major Baillie was attributable entirely to the latter's manners and conduct, and was the spontaneous impulse of his Excellency's own mind.

25. I have conceived it of importance to dwell so long upon this point, because the existence of this intrigue of Hukeem Mehdee is the keystone of Major Baillie's exposition. The late Vizier's original disagreement is not the only effect which is traced to it. The rupture subsequent to the reconciliation is attributed chiefly to the same cause; so also is the disposition his Excellency the present Vizier testified to complain that his situation was attended with circumstances of humiliation heaped upon him by Major Baillie.

26. The truth probably is, that Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan had the sagacity to see that the distaste of the late Nawaub Vizier to Major Baillie was vehement and unalterable; that he thence calculated his chances, under the patronage of the Resident, to be unpromising; that he consequently deserted Major Baillie to connect himself with the Vizier; and that he endeavoured to expiate his former attachments, as well as to ingratiate himself with the Nawaub Vizier, by echoing his Excellency's complaints and whetting his jealousies, in which sense I believe him to have been mischievous. It will be easily conceived, that Major Baillie would be inveterate against an individual who had so changed sides, and would soon urge the man into active virulence.

27. Nothing further need be said respecting the original disagreement. As far, also, as the rupture subsequent to the reconciliation was only a revival in his Excellency's mind of the same sentiments he had before entertained, it palpably must be attributable to the same causes, and his Excellency may fairly be acquitted of having received the impression from the private whisperings of malicious counsellors. This rupture, however, dates its commencement from the period of my arrival in the country; and there are other circumstances represented to have contributed to produce it, in which I am myself more personally concerned. The first to be noticed is, his Excellency's having speculated on the probability of a change of measures in consequence of a change in the head of the Government.

28. There is a peculiar inconsistency in the mode in which this circumstance is adduced. On the occasion of reconciliation, his Excellency is represented to have been brought to consent to a trial of the reform suggested. He receded from the concession because he hoped I should not press it, conceiving it probable that I might have different views with respect to Oude from those of my predecessors in the Supreme Government. This, I presume, is what Major Baillie would say.

29. My appointment to succeed the Earl of Minto was notified to the Nawaub Vizier in a letter dated the 2d July: the reconciliation took place on the 2d of October. By that time my coming was universally known, as my approach was notified from the Isle of France and I was daily expected. Indeed, my being actually at Madras could not well have failed to be then public at Lucknow. I arrived on the 4th of the month. There was thus ample time for every enquiry to have been made, and for speculations to have been conceived and brought to a maturity of influence on the mind, long before the day of reconciliation. The late Vizier is said to have been remarkably prone to entertain such speculations. They are said to have had weight enough to have produced a retraction of what had been unwillingly conceded on his part; but they do not appear to have had sufficient weight to prevent the concessions being made. How is it they were not then entertained? For three successive years his Excellency had resisted the utmost earnestness of solicitation and remonstrance, not only from the Resident but even from the Governor-General direct, and had obstinately refused to adopt the measure recommended. Had his Excellency calculated that the solicitation and remonstrances would cease with the authority of the Governor-General under whom the measure had originated, it is not probable that he would have made choice of the very eve of the arrival of a new Governor-General, and of the expected accomplishment of his hopes, to relax in his opposition and

to make unwilling concessions. On the contrary, if his Excellency entertained such speculations as are ascribed to him, they must have afforded encouragement to continue the resistance, at least until he could ascertain whether the hopes of change were well-founded or not.* I myself, however, can see no reason to suppose speculations were entertained at all, or had any influence on his Excellency's conduct. A reference to the Resident's report of the conference which ended in the reconciliation, will sufficiently shew in what manner it was brought about. The concessions were on the part of the Resident, who lowered his tone, and explained away the obnoxious features of his former propositions, which were all that had occasioned the resistance. The subsequent rupture was obviously the consequence of the revival, on his part, of pretensions similar to those he before abandoned. The Vizier was consistent in his opposition to every thing he thought calculated to lower his dignity, lessen his authority, or affect his character in the eyes of his subjects.

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30. There is, however, another cause assigned in the letter of the 28th April for the renewed opposition of the late Vizier, and deduced from a series of inferences and circumstances, in some of which Major Baillie endeavours to implicate me, in a manner which it behoves me to repel with peculiar distinctness. Captain McLeod is represented as having become a party to Hukeem Mehdee's intrigues, and as having come down to the Presidency shortly after my arrival in the country, with the view of forwarding their object. A separate native branch of the same intrigue is further represented as being at work in Calcutta, and it is said to have been in consequence of assurances of my views conveyed to the late Vizier directly from myself, through such channels, that his Excellency was encouraged to renew his opposition to Major Baillie's suggestion, from a conviction that he would eventually meet support from the Supreme Authority.

31. I shall first remark the singular inconsistency of the whole of this assumption before I proceed to expose the distortion of fact, and the false reasoning from which it is deduced.

32. The rupture took place almost immediately after my arrival in the country. These intrigues could scarcely have been in being at its commencement, much less could they have arrived at a maturity sufficient to have been the cause of it. It is evidently absurd to attribute the renewed disagreement to the effects of their success, in ascertaining my real sentiments on a subject completely novel to me, and not to be comprehended without the perusal of voluminous documents wholly out of the compass of my time, while I was to put myself in possession of so many more urgent informations; and it is still more extravagant to suppose the machinations so advanced, as that they had succeeded in procuring a communication or assurance of those sentiments to his Excellency. My first act of interference with respect to Oude was, as I said before, on the occasion of a representation on the subject of this very rupture after its occurrence. The Council will recollect the spirit in which the letter and orders I then myself drafted were conceived. Those, at least, were not calculated to offer any encouragement to opposition on the part of his Excellency, for the special object of my letter was to overcome and bear down by my personal weight the repugnance which had been testified, as will appear from the very natural and convincing explanation of the Nawaub Vizier in answer to that letter. The fresh dissensions arose from Major Baillie's insisting upon a construction of the agreement different from the understanding in which his Excellency had contracted it, the former maintaining that the Nawaub Vizier was pledged to introduce the new system through every part of his dominions at once, the latter asserting that he had only engaged to extend it gradually. Major Baillie's inference, however, is, that this demur was resorted to because his Excellency was receiving, through other channels, encouraging assurances of my having no wish to carry the measure. In other words, that I myself was secretly fostering opposition to what I was publicly enforcing with the whole weight of my authority, a species of duplicity which would have been, in my situation, no less childishly unnecessary, than it would have been despicable.

33. If,

* Vide Letter, 2d October, page 540.

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33. If, however, this subject be viewed dispassionately, the natural conclusion is, that the intrigues, if they had existence, owed their origin to the Nawab Vizier's preconceived jealousy of Major Baillie's grasping disposition, and his Excellency's natural wish to ascertain if what he objected to was a personal object of Major Baillie's own, or one in the eagerness to carry which his Government participated. There must have been a previous dissatisfaction in his Excellency's mind before he could have countenanced the intrigues; for the intrigues themselves, though they might have been the effect, could not have been the cause of this discontent.

34. Let us, however, examine the circumstances from which Major Baillie draws the inference, that an assurance of my disposition to abandon the reform must have been communicated to his Excellency through one of two channels; either through Major McLeod, or through the native agent of Hukeem Mehdee.

35. Captain McLeod left Lucknow for the purpose of bringing his children to the Presidency, very soon, indeed almost immediately, after the reconciliation of the 2d of October. He arrived at the Presidency early in November. The late Vizier had availed himself of this occasion (perhaps from an idea that Captain McLeod possessed an introduction and consequently the means of conversation with myself) to open his mind a little with respect to his situation with Major Baillie, and to request Captain McLeod to make known his distresses to me, and to endeavour to ascertain what were the real objects of the British Government, which he had reason to suspect did not go so far as Major Baillie was pushing them in his communications. Captain McLeod, influenced, as I firmly believe, by the mere impression that the kindness and attention he had uniformly experienced from his Excellency required of him not to disoblige him by the refusal of such a request, undertook generally to endeavour to ascertain my sentiments if any opportunity should offer.

36. Such was the nature of what Major Baillie calls the deputation of Captain McLeod. He endeavours to prove, that the conversation with which it commenced must have occurred before the reconciliation; because he wishes to represent this as complete, and presumes that as Hukeem Mehdee was banished the Presence on its occurrence, his Excellency could not have had an inducement to pursue such a course, when not instigated by his counsels. The inference, however, is entirely without grounds, and is contradicted by the fact of Captain McLeod's having been present at the reconciliation, whereas the conversation occurred as he was taking his final leave, which it can only be presumed was the last occasion of his seeing his Excellency. Its being subsequent, in this manner, is only a further proof, that his Excellency's suspicions of the Resident were not entirely removed by the reconciliation, and that they were the feelings of his own mind, and not dictated by any advisers.

37. There is another inference drawn by Major Baillie, in this part of his narrative, from equally insufficient grounds, and which is equally at variance with the time and circumstances of the conversation alluded to. It is assumed that Captain McLeod was a party to the intrigues which Hukeem Mehdee was then said to be carrying on, and that he was a coadjutor and emissary of the Hukeem's while at Calcutta. I sincerely believe the inference to be without a particle of foundation, and cannot discover, even in the circumstances adduced by Major Baillie, the slightest reason to entertain most distantly a conception so injurious to that officer's character. We must dismiss it as one of those vague and unjustifiable imputations abounding in the narrative in question, but from which we can only extract cause to lament the strange proneness of Major Baillie to miserable suspicions.

38. But to proceed. The following are the grounds for Major Baillie's inference: that his Excellency's renewed opposition must have been occasioned by some communication from Captain McLeod, conveying an assurance of his Excellency's being eventually supported by myself. Considering the important nature of the deputation, Major Baillie argues, it is impossible to suppose that no communication took place. Now Captain McLeod reached Calcutta early in November, Hukeem Mehdee was recalled about the end of the month, and the renewed

renewed opposition began to shew itself about the 13th December, between which period and the date of Captain McLeod's arrival there was abundance of time for such a communication to have taken place. This is really the only argument in favour of the inference I can discover in the whole narrative. On this frivolous ground, which resolves itself into Major Baillie's gratuitous idea of the importance of the mission, has this individual ventured to assume that there was a communication, and to accuse Captain McLeod of dissimulation, in suppressing the mention of it from the narrative of the same transactions he presented to me at Lucknow.

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39. Still it might be asserted, that though not through Captain McLeod, the communication of my sentiments may have been conveyed through other channels, so as to produce the same effect. I never myself heard any mention of Hukeem Mehdee's native emissary, and consider the idle stories of Major Baillie's news-writers much too ridiculous to deserve notice. The most conclusive evidence of the impossibility of there having been any communication of the nature imagined, which could have instigated his Excellency to renew the opposition he began to shew about the middle of December, is the certainty that I at that moment entertained and proclaimed sentiments exactly contrary to those attributed to me. It was on the 7th of January that I drafted, with my own hand, a letter direct to his Excellency,* dictated in as high a spirit of confidence towards the Resident, and with as strong a wish to enforce the reform, as it was possible for a person in my situation to exhibit. How, then, could the contrary have been conveyed to his Excellency in December, with an assurance of its being my ascertained opinion on the subject? The whole idea of this communication may be dismissed as having been an indecent indulgence of fancy on the part of Major Baillie.

40. There is one circumstance relative to this period, on which it is necessary for me to make a remark; though I profess that I do so with reluctance, as let me be ever so measured in terms, the exposition must bear harder on Major Baillie than I could wish. I mentioned cursorily to Major Baillie at Cawnpore, that I had received one letter from the Nawaub Vizier through a private channel without its having been previously communicated to him. When I told him the circumstance, I am positive I did so in such a manner that he could not misapprehend the individual, if I did not actually state the person. The letter was one from the late Vizier, which Lady Hood transmitted to me. Though it was stated to be only a complimentary profession of the satisfaction which the Vizier had experienced in an opportunity of showing attention to a lady for whom he thought me interested, I nevertheless remonstrated with Lady Hood, by letter, for having forwarded even such a paper in breach of the regulation, which requires all communications from foreign Princes to go through the Residents at the respective Courts.

41. The circumstance was mentioned by me to Major Baillie, that he might be confident no indirect correspondence would ever be allowed by me; and he was at the same time pointedly informed of the insignificant purport of the letter in question.

42. To this letter, so explained to him, Major Baillie endeavours to attach an air of deep importance. He is gracious enough to say, that "although Lord Moira did me the honour to mention at Cawnpore that his Lordship had received and answered one letter from the Vizier conveyed through an irregular channel, and unknown to me at the time, yet it is quite incredible that the abolition (as the Vizier terms it) or the abandonment of the objects of reform on the part of the British Government should have formed the subject of a direct communication from the Governor-General to the Vizier." The quality of that attempt at suggesting a suspicion that the communication was political, when he (Major Baillie) knew its real purport, shall not be more minutely observed upon by me. All comment is superfluous.

43. Relatively to this circumstance, I misled Major Baillie in one respect. In telling him that I had received a letter from Snadut Alee I necessarily gave him to conclude that the letter was addressed to myself; and I really believed it had been so, till a refusal of a letter from Lady Hood on the subject has undeceived

* See page 579.



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undeceived me. It was a letter from the Nawaub Vizier to her Ladyship. She understood that it referred to me; and not having immediate means of getting it translated, she forwarded it to me, with an explanation of her reason for doing so. I sent it back to her, not only untranslated, but so completely unexamined as that I had not even looked at the superscription, and thence remained impressed with the notion of its having been meant for me. It will, of course, appear that Major Baillie is in error, when he conceives I told him I had answered the Vizier's letter, as it would be difficult to answer a letter the contents of which were totally unknown. There was in this no intentional or conscious inaccuracy on the part of Major Baillie. It was natural for him to imagine that I must have answered a letter received from the Nawaub Vizier; but his persuasion of my having told him I had done so, proves how easily his mind converted loose suppositions into fixed belief.

44. Great stress is affectedly laid by Major Baillie upon the late Vizier's having told Captain McLeod, on his return, that I had abandoned the enforcing a most obnoxious measure, alluding to the question of reform, and upon the expressions in the paper delivered to me by the present Vizier, implying that the reform had been suspended by his Excellency's father in consequence of a letter from myself. These two circumstances are adduced as strong corroborations of the inference, that there must have been a communication, if not a letter from myself, conveying such assurances to the late Vizier. Both, however, obviously alluded to the public letter I addressed to the late Vizier on the 25th of March, which went through the Resident himself.

45. As irrefragable proof that the Nawaub Vizier had not before conceived me to have abandoned the plan of reform, let his answer to my former letter be examined. What is its purport? An anxious vindication of himself against the charge of having flown off from his engagement. He says that, so far from having resisted the wishes of the Government, he has actually made progress in carrying the reform into execution, and he quotes the steps taken by him. He avers that he never did engage to carry it into effect through the whole of his dominions at once, because the attempt would have produced ruinous confusion. The explanation was to me quite satisfactory: and Major Baillie sinks the tenor of this letter, which passed through his hands!

46. The conciliatory tone of this letter may have contributed, as was intended, to inspire his Excellency with a confidence that I would not insist upon any requisitions involving humiliation to himself; and from this, probably, he deduced his opinion of the course of policy I had adopted towards him. The Resident's having also refrained from further pressing him upon the subject of the reform, which his Excellency must of course have presumed was under orders from Government, formed another circumstance in support of his notion that I had abandoned the measure in question. Now what was it that the Nawaub Vizier understood me to have abandoned? A reform in his financial administration? Not so; for the condition on which the system obnoxious to him had been suspended was, declaredly, that a reform in some other shape, which would be practically effectual, should be adopted. His joy was a rational one, that I had consented not to urge a particular plan, the fitness of which with regard to his dominion I had begun seriously to doubt, and which I have since been satisfied was injudicious: a plan calculated to lower him in the eyes of his subjects, by forcing into power a number of individuals marshalled against his authority. More of this hereafter.

47. The grounds on which I adopted this line of conduct have been above explained, and are fully known to the Board; so that it is unnecessary to recapitulate them in this place. But, for the further satisfaction of the Council, I here declare, that except the public letter in question, which was addressed to his Excellency and sent through the Resident, and which closed the disagreement, instead of being the occasion of it, I never, whether by verbal or written communication, conveyed to the late Vizier the slightest assurance of my sentiments on the question of reform through any secret channel whatever, either European or native. With Captain McLeod I never discoursed upon the subject, that I
can

can recollect; nor indeed with any gentleman whatever, not officially in my confidence.

48. Let us, however, pursue the course of the late Resident's narrative into the events which occurred when I was myself at Lucknow.

49. My orders of the 25th of March to the Resident, together with the letter above alluded to, though it left the subjects of difference unadjusted, put a stop for the time to those discreditable altercations and disputes which had for so long been carried on, until they had excited ultimately a degree of personal animosity on both sides. I intended things should have remained in that state until my meeting with his Excellency, when I proposed to enquire into and finally adjust them. The sudden demise of Saadut Alee Khan before I could reach Cawnpore, and the accession of his son, who was reported to be actuated by very different principles of conduct, cut short my intentions with respect to Major Baillie. Within a month after his accession, the present Vizier was reported by Major Baillie to have conceded every point which had been at issue between his father and the Resident; and it was so represented, that I could only believe it was his Excellency's voluntary act, through conviction of the propriety of what had been proposed to him, and of the futility of the grounds on which it had been resisted by his father. At the same time, the confidence he seemed to be giving to Major Baillie was said to be the result of pure attachment to him personally.

50. On the first receipt of the report of these circumstances, though I saw in his Excellency's relative situation towards Major Baillie much calculated to impress the former with a high sense of obligation, and though I had not the least doubt that the attachment existed in the manner, and to the height represented, I yet thought I perceived in Major Baillie a disposition to overstrain influence in the position he had thus assumed. Thence, at the same time that I congratulated Major Baillie the public expression of my gratification at his having so happily accomplished objects on which Government had heretofore shewn itself interested, I further directed the Political Secretary to hint privately at some parts of his conduct which I thought indiscreet. I desired he might be warned particularly against obtruding, in matters not essential, an advice which, under the circumstances of the two Governments, could not but savour of dictation; not that I suspected the Nawaub Vizier of being impatient under the counsel, or of imagining it to have other object than his welfare, but I dreaded lest it should seem to the world that we were making his Excellency pay a new price for that elevation, which the obligations of our good faith bound us to secure to him, and lest he himself should at length feel us to be practising extortion upon his gratitude, through the multitude of acquiescences which we demanded in the guise of advice.

51. The letter addressed to Major Baillie by Mr. Adam, at my desire, I take this opportunity of placing on record. It is, for several reasons of importance, desirable that the Council should be well acquainted with the sentiments I then entertained. I carried the same with me to Cawnpore, and as the circumstances which had originally shaken the entire confidence I was otherwise disposed to yield to Major Baillie, had ceased to exist in consequence of the demise of Saadut Alee Khan, and the apparent attachment of his successor to the Resident, my favourable disposition towards Major Baillie was renewed. Of course, I thought no more of inquiring how far he might have been justified, or otherwise, in the course of his altercations with the late Vizier: all that had been in my contemplation on this subject had lost its object on the decease of his Excellency, and on the extinction of those dissensions which I had only been anxious to set to rest in a satisfactory manner.

52. This confidence in Major Baillie, and my favourable disposition towards him, I took the occasion of the first conference with the Vizier to express. I shall not, however, recapitulate all that passed between myself and his Excellency at Cawnpore and Lucknow, as the whole is fully detailed in the note I recorded on the 30th of November 1814, to which it will be sufficient to refer the Board. The view I then took has the advantage of having been committed

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to waiting while the impressions were strong in my mind and the facts fresh in my recollection. My sentiments upon the subject have not been changed by any thing which has now been urged; I shall, therefore, merely notice slightly the most material points of variance in the exposition now given by Major Baillie, and shall then hasten to the circumstances attending the issue of the transactions in question, which I then but imperfectly understood.

53. Major Baillie would lead us to the conclusion that his Excellency was driven against his will to express to me a dissatisfaction he did not feel at certain circumstances of his situation with respect to the Resident, while, in fact, Refaut-ood-Dowlah had the warmest attachment to him. The springs of so extraordinary a procedure are asserted to have been a continuance of the intrigues of Hukeem Mehdee, with the participation in them of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, to persuade his Excellency that I was myself desirous of finding ground for the removal of Major Baillie from his situation. Certain parts of my conduct are also quoted, as having had a tendency to strengthen this notion in his Excellency, and to produce the declaration with which he at last came forward.

54. As far as relates to Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, the issue between them and Major Baillie is, whether they pushed themselves into his Excellency's confidence, and sought by active intrigue to instil into his mind sentiments he did not already possess, or whether his Excellency threw himself upon their confidence, and requested their assistance to forward his own views.

55. It is totally unnecessary to go into the respective arguments in support of these assertions. We have as evidence, on one side,* the candid acknowledgment of the individuals of all that they were themselves concerned in, which they declare their readiness to confirm by oath, and this statement corresponds with collateral circumstances. On the other, there are only advanced vague surmises, from facts and circumstances sometimes obviously misrepresented, frequently totally irrelevant, seldom warranting any inference to the prejudice of the gentlemen in question, and never capable of the full interpretation to which they have been strained.

56. His Excellency the present Vizier is a man of too doubtful a character for any one to be able to say whether the jealousy of the Resident's encroaching disposition was the offspring of his Excellency's own mind or the suggestion of others. Obviously, however, it must have taken root there before he threw himself upon the English gentlemen in the manner represented. For my part, I have thought there was more timidity of disposition in him than deficiency of head, and I never deemed him so destitute of sense or so devoid of pride, as not to have felt irritation at finding himself in a continual state of subjection to the Resident and exhibited to his own subjects as in tutelage. Whether the sentiment originated with himself or was instilled into his mind is immaterial; it could not have been entertained, unless it had been warranted by some part of Major Baillie's conduct. That this was the case I found early cause to believe. Indeed, surveying the subject at this distance of time, and with the lights I now possess, I think it may be safely assumed that even the influence by which Major Baillie was enabled to carry the several measures he proposed on his Excellency's first accession to the musnud, was an influence derived from practising on his Excellency's fears, not arising from favour or from a sense of obligation, as I had at first imagined. If his Excellency's personal favour was with either party, it must have been with that of which Hukeem Mehdee was the head; for knowing the Resident's hostility against this man, unless there was an invincible leaning towards him and his counsels, he would not have been suffered by his Excellency to approach the Presence while the parade of attachment to Major Baillie was in full display, and the consequent wish to oblige him was complete. So little weight did Major Baillie really possess, when it was to be tried in the balance against that of Hukeem Mehdee Alee, that he (Major Baillie) was forced to solicit my personal representation to the Nawab Vizier on the inconvenience of permitting the Hukeem to remain at Lucknow. With respect to what may have been

* See Captain McLeod's private note to me.

been the views of Hukeem Mehdee and his party, and what the means by which they may have expected to accomplish their purposes, I cannot, of course, be possessed of any information. Major Baillie, however, is fond of dwelling upon their intrigues about myself or with natives in my suite, his imaginations on which head I believe to be totally without foundation.

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57. It is here necessary to remark a skilful laxity of expression, apparently conceived by Major Baillie to be licit, in order to lead the suspicion of others to a conclusion which he has reasons for not distinctly advancing.

Paragraph 22: "Charges for secret services and presents to English gentlemen and ladies appeared in Hukeem Mehdee's accounts submitted to the present Vizier for adjustment in my presence." When officially required to specify who the ladies and gentlemen were, he answered that he understood Lady Hood to be the lady; but he could not recollect whether Major-General Gillespie, or some other general, was the gentleman. From subsequent passages one cannot doubt but that he must have believed these items to have been a fraudulent attempt to account for money never disbursed: yet he leaves this indirect accusation to stick or not, as it may, on the dignified persons in question, because the existence of a supposition that bribes could be given was useful to his purpose.

58. "Taj-ood-Deen (a supposed emissary of Hukeem Mehdee's) joined the suite of Lord Moira, and remained in attendance for some months." The words "suite" and "attendance" are here employed, to convey the notion that this man was permitted to accompany me and was in the habits of communication; whereas, his attaching himself (probably to evade custom dues) to a fleet so numerous as to afford little risk that the intrusion of a strange vessel should be perceived, was unauthorized. His person is to this instant absolutely unknown to me, and I do not comprehend the possibility of his gaining a tittle of information on any subject beyond the rate of our progress.

59. "Gocul Chund Chobey, an ostensible agent of the Vizier's, in occasional attendance on the Governor-General." My first acquaintance with this name was produced by Major Baillie's letter of the 8th of September 1814, wherein the person in question is reported to have quoted my sentiments with respect to the reform. On that letter's being forwarded to me by Mr. Adam, I addressed a confidential note to him, expressing my disbelief of the whole story. The impression made upon me at the moment may be worth recording. The following is an extract from the note:—

"Till I read the letter from Major Baillie transmitted by you, the existence of such a man as Gocul Chund was unknown to me. Little as I could imagine that any officer in my military suite could have intercourse with a person of that description, I still thought it necessary to question the gentlemen, who all disavow their knowledge not only of him but of any other attendant in the fleet not actually attached to the boats. Such of the civil service as I am in the habits of seeing frequently have similarly been questioned by me and make the same answer: but had the case been that any of these individuals had been intimate with Gocul Chund, no suspicion could have rested on any one of them, because to no person whatever, now with the fleet, except Mr. Ricketts and yourself, have I ever in the remotest manner mentioned the affairs of Oude. At Calcutta the Members of Council alone knew my opinion. It is a subject which I should not have the most distant notion of discussing in any other way than officially; the quotation, therefore, of my sentiments imputed to Gocul Chund is sheer extravagance. My opinions on the head of reform are on record in the letters addressed by me to the late Nawaub Vizier; and they are so explicitly stated, that the copies of those letters transmitted to the Resident can leave nothing doubtful on the subject."

60. Again: "Mr. Clarke was reported to be the medium of the transmission of those presents to Captain Gilbert, and also of a sword to Major Davison; and this circumstance struck me in such a light, as to open my eyes in some degree on the conduct of Mr. Clarke." Had not this observation been intended to excite an unfounded conception it never could have been made by
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Major Baillie. If Mr. Clarke had any thing to do in the case, he, in the actual service of the Nawaub Vizier and in constant attendance on his Excellency, was the person the most natural of all others to be so employed. The evidence of Captain Gilbert explains the presents to him. The mention of the sword to my Aide-de-camp, Major Davison, I suppose is to furnish a presumption that it was an attempt to purchase the influence with me against the Resident. Major Baillie was the person who informed me that seven trays of presents were prepared for each of my Aides-de-camp. On my saying that I should not allow them to be accepted, Major Baillie observed that the Nawaub Vizier would be wounded, if on the occasion of his recent accession to the musnud a compliment of that kind from him were wholly declined; on which account he recommended that I would permit something to be taken. As it was my peculiar wish to conciliate the Nawaub Vizier, I agreed that each Aide-de-camp should accept a sword of the ordinary Lucknow fashion. The kind of sword is so well known, that I need hardly mention their being, though neat, of no intrinsic value. It was so settled. Major Davison happening to be the Aide-de-camp sent to meet the Nawaub Vizier, with the established compliment of my enquiries after his health on his Excellency's arrival at his camp on the other side of the river, the sword was then given to him singly; and this was a circumstance which Major Baillie represents as having opened his eyes!

61. Further: "His Lordship's doubts of the veracity of his representative "at the Court of Lucknow evinced by his deputation of Captain Gilbert." To impress a belief of his "deputation" is a considerable object with Major Baillie. No colour of deputation from me existed. He uses the word again and again. It is impossible to speak of any man's internal conviction, therefore I can only say Major Baillie had peculiar reason to think his employment of the word incorrect. I refer to the public manner in which the Nawaub Vizier gave the invitation to Captain Gilbert, as that officer has confirmed on oath. The testimony utterly rebuts Major Baillie's conclusions. With regard to the question of the Resident's veracity which I am accused of entertaining, I admit that the indulging a gratuitous suspicion derogatory to any one standing in the light of a gentleman would have been unworthy. But here, again, Major Baillie wrests the nature of the fact, in order to saddle me with the having groundlessly regarded him as capable of advancing an untruth. My doubt was not as to the Vizier's having authorized Major Baillie to request my assent to Mr. Wilson's being his physician, but as to his Excellency's having done it at the moment when Major Baillie spoke to me. The intimation to Mr. Law that application would be made for my permission towards Mr. Wilson's being appointed physician was present enough to my mind; therefore I could not but be aware that Major Baillie had powers to make that entreaty: my doubt was, as to the entreaty's being made to me in consequence of a fresh suggestion of his Excellency's at that instant. An application originating with himself on that occasion must have dispelled all the hesitation which I had before felt on the subject. I did not catch any phrase of the Nawaub Vizier's that connected itself with the appointment; and I was thence uncertain whether Major Baillie, grounding himself on the former authorization of the Nawaub Vizier (represented as having been extorted from his Excellency) had not taken that opportunity of urging a request which I had been apprized was to be made. Major Baillie's appeal to the circumstance, that a hundred persons present must have been able to check him had he made the application without having been then desired to do so by the Nawaub Vizier, is sad sophistry. Who ever was in the company of a Native Prince, without having learned that all conversation is carried on in so low a tone, as that none but the persons on each side of him, and immediately engaged in the discourse, have a possibility of hearing what passed?

62. In another place he talks of the intrigues "encouraged by native emissaries as formerly in the suite of the Governor-General." The word "suite" is here again pressed into the service, that it may be inferred the individuals were somehow connected with me, or at least had some facilities of communication. There is no excuse open to Major Baillie on the score of misapprehension

sion on this head. He perfectly knew my situation at the period to which this refers. He was aware that I had been constrained to wait at Futtygurh till the season of the hot winds should have passed, and that I had no natives in my suite; and that those on whom he bestows the description were persons in no shape attached to any department attendant on me, but merely petitioners who repaired thither, as was the case from all quarters, to have memorials on alleged grievances laid before the Governor-General.

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63. I have reserved for the last the exposure of an attempt which well deserves to hold that place in the climax:

64. In paragraph 15, speaking of my expected arrival, Major Baillie says, "The friendship and intimacy of Lady Loudon with Captain McLeod's relations at home was frequently talked of at this time, and Captain McLeod had obtained leave of absence from the Vizier to proceed to Calcutta with his children." He then, in paragraph 22, proceeds: "thus the fact, so satisfactorily established, of the late Vizier having two agents, an European and a native, in Calcutta, the one supposed to be connected with Lady Loudon and the other tutored by Hukeem Mehdee, combined with the previous negotiations between Captain McLeod and the Hukeem, seems to me to form proof the most convincing to the mind of every person conversant in the slightest degree with the character of the natives of India, that the late Vizier's retractation of his solemn and written assurances regarding the reform of his Government, and all his untoward proceedings from the month of December 1813 till his death, was connected with the deputation of Captain McLeod, and with intrigues conducted by Hukeem Mehdee." It is quite unnecessary for me to expatiate on the quality of that hazarded insinuation directed against Lady Loudon; the object of it, as will be clear to every body, is to have it inferred that Lady Loudon, prejudiced against Major Baillie by Captain McLeod, swayed me to extend to Captain McLeod and Hukeem Mehdee a countenance which Major Baillie describes thus: "the encouragement, unintentional I am persuaded, which their joint views must have received from an authority paramount to my own." I fear the candour of Major Baillie in leaving the loophole of unconsciousness by which the Governor-General may escape from the charge of turpitude in undermining his own representative, will not pass current, when he has assumed the existence of the encouragement in question on such indecent surmises. I thought it fitting to declare, upon my honour, to the Council, and I repeat the declaration with the same solemnity of asseveration, that I or Lady Loudon could recollect but one conversation (if conversation it could be called) relative to Major Baillie, before the period when the present Vizier's supposed dissatisfaction was communicated to me at Cawnpore. Major Baillie had been earnestly recommended to me and to Lady Loudon in England by a relative very dear to us both shortly before her death, and we were thence solicitous to shew him attention. One day, after perusing an extraordinarily acrimonious despatch of his respecting Saadut Alee, I mentioned to Lady Loudon the regret I felt at perceiving such a spirit of rancour in Major Baillie's statement. She met the observation with an expression of concern; and nothing further passed relative to Major Baillie, either on that occasion or on any other, till we met him in the Upper Provinces. Major Baillie, I am aware, would contend that he had not made a charge on any one of these subjects; and I would subscribe to his assertion. It was not his policy to make charges; he has only indulged himself in little disfigurements of circumstances. Petty distortions might have the chance of being thought not worth the trouble of a comment, while the multiplicity and repetition of them would mislead others into the false conclusions which it was an object to establish, but which it would have been unwise to bring forward in a shape that could be grasped. There is undoubtedly much dexterity in this; but it is a dexterity which Major Baillie's cooler reflection would have condemned. I ought to add the distinct assurance of Lady Loudon, that she never had the slightest conversation with Captain McLeod respecting Major Baillie during the former's residence in Calcutta.

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65. I have connected these instances, in order to show that the distortion of circumstances was systematic, and practised with the hope that, by means of such colouring, Major Baillie's loss of influence might be accounted for in a manner less mortifying than should it appear to have been entailed through his own want of judgment. Hence arise his identification of himself with the interests of the State, his lamentations over the injury sustained by the British Government through the interruption of his plans, and his reference of these mischiefs to the unhappy prejudice against him instilled into me either by Captain McLeod, or by native agents who beset me on the river. With regard to the latter, it is difficult to persuade oneself Major Baillie ever should have believed that any such persons could possibly have had the slightest influence on my counsels, directly or indirectly, or that they could have had access to information with respect to what was passing in my mind.

66. I had no native near my person. From a caution, the entire value of which I did not till now appreciate, I had resolved that there should not be a channel for communications to me through any native; therefore, though I was anxious to make progress in the Hindoostanee language, I would not suffer my own Moonshee, under whom I was studying it, to attend me on the tour, and throughout the fleet there was not, within my knowledge, a single native who could have thought of addressing conversation to me. I believe there was not an individual in my suite at all connected with, or who gave his confidence to persons of the description alluded to by Major Baillie, in any such manner as to admit of their having been, even unconsciously, instrumental to such intrigues. On the same ground of prudence, I was careful to select an individual* to be entrusted with the charge of reading the petitions I might receive, who needed the assistance of no Moonshee or other native, on purpose to prevent the possibility of mischief from such intervention. The whole story of these intrigues may therefore be dismissed, as having been the result of a suspicion altogether loose and groundless.

67. Major Baillie next asserts, that there were some features of my conduct and behaviour towards himself, which had a tendency to strengthen in his Excellency the notion that I was anxious to discover some plausible excuse for removing him from the Residency at Lucknow.

68. The first circumstance adduced is the want of a salute of artillery on his arrival at my quarters at Cawnpore and some delay in his introduction. When Major Baillie shows how far he could miscomprehend his position relative to me, he affords too ready an inference as to his not measuring his situation in regard to the Nawaub Vizier with all the accuracy which he ascribes to himself. I cannot but think that Major Baillie is the very first representative who ever expected to be received with distinguished military honours when he waited on his principal. The Resident at Delhi, or the Resident with Scindiah, never looked for so incongruous a compliment. None of the Generals on the Staff, none of the Political Agents to the Governor-General, ever received it, and to no representative of an independant Native Sovereign was it on any occasion paid, unless that representative happened to be the heir apparent.

69. I am said, again, in the conference in which his Excellency made the tender of a crore of rupees in loan to the Company, to have conveyed a distinct invitation to his Excellency to conferences from which the Resident should be excluded. I confess I do not recollect this point: it may have been so; but certainly the manner, or the expression in which the proposed exclusion of Major Baillie was hinted, must have been professedly addressed to Major Baillie's own delicacy, and have been couched in terms that rendered the matter equally incapable of unfavourable construction, or of wounding the feelings of Major Baillie who was present at the time. I trust no one could be more careful on this point than myself; and, at any rate, it appears to me singular that I should take such a step, when I had not at the moment a suspicion that the Vizier could wish to say any thing to me unheard by Major Baillie. Indeed, had the Vizier understood it to be my intention, that whenever his Excellency requested

* Mr. Prinsep. See Minute dated the 20th May 1814.

requested a private audience the Resident should be excluded, the subsequent note of Mr. Clarke, intreating me to see the Vizier without Major Baillie's being present, would have been unnecessary. It is admitted that had an invitation been conveyed by me this note would have been superfluous; yet from this Major Baillie can discern but one inference, which is, that the note was a fabrication of Mr. Clarke's, unauthorized by his Excellency. This is, however, an imputation to the prejudice of that gentleman, absolutely refuted by his Excellency's distinct avowal, when I put the question as to Mr. Clarke's authority, in the presence of Messrs. Ricketts, Adam, and Swinton.

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70. I shall close my advertence to this part of the late Resident's narrative, with endeavouring to explain shortly the degree in which my conduct may probably have influenced his Excellency to come forward with the declaration of his grievances and to have subsequently retracted it.

71. I arrived at Cawnpore with a firm conviction in my mind that his Excellency entertained towards Major Baillie sentiments of warm attachment and implicit confidence. Indeed, my own doubts of the delicacy of some parts of Major Baillie's conduct towards his Excellency's father having become matter no longer to be acted upon, my confidence in Major Baillie was renewed, as I have before explained. I, of course, felt no hesitation in testifying to his Excellency my perfect reliance on Major Baillie, with a view to strengthen the attachment and mutual good understanding I conceived to exist between them. As soon, however, as the possibility of the non-existence of this harmony was hinted to me, I naturally felt anxious to ascertain the actual state of things as well as to learn his Excellency's real sentiments; and I was, therefore, rather more guarded as to any studied display of what might have a tendency to deter his Excellency from unbosoming himself. At the same time, however, I was careful, even with nice observance, not to withhold from the Resident those public marks of trust and attention which his situation entitled him to expect. I was thus in a position of some difficulty. I was solicitous to gain his Excellency's confidence, even so far as in matters affecting his relation with the British Resident; but I did not wish him to suppose that the Resident had lost mine, or that I harboured a desire to subvert him.

72. Satisfied, as I am at this moment, as well from subsequent events as from reflection on what then occurred, that dissatisfaction towards Major Baillie was, from various causes, the genuine sentiment of his Excellency's heart, my behaviour clearly had a tendency rather to repress his avowal of this sentiment. The profession and the display of confidence towards the Resident which the Nawaub Vizier daily witnessed from me, must have much more than counter-balanced any floating imaginations which his mind could have received from any intrigues as to my dislike of that person.

73. Major Baillie's own account of what passed between his Excellency and myself on my hearing these complaints when they were at last brought forward, as well as of my behaviour towards himself immediately afterwards, when I called him to hand his Excellency to his carriage, furnishes sufficient evidence of the uniform courtesy and consideration with which I was careful to treat him; and the statement will clearly prove, that instead of having met with encouragement from me, his Excellency laboured under the greatest apprehension lest he might have incurred my displeasure by uttering his complaints.

74. With respect to the circumstances of my behaviour towards the English gentlemen at the Court of Oude, against which Major Baillie complains so strongly, I have already fully explained, in my note of the 30th November 1814, the light in which I regarded their conduct and the feelings which influenced mine towards them. In the ninety-third paragraph of his letter, Major Baillie professes to give the purport of a conversation which passed in an audience he had with me on the subject. If Major Baillie be convinced of his having narrated accurately what passed, it is a very remarkable instance how far the power of fancy is capable of confusing recollection. The tenor of an interview to which there were no witnesses, and in which the parties contradict one another so decidedly as I do Major Baillie, can only be judged by probability. When Major Baillie

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Baillie states that he told me he could only consider Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke as "authorized spies upon him," I have only to ask a moment's reflection on the likelihood of his venturing to hold such language to me, who certainly (by his own shewing) did not indulge him in any intimacy of discourse. It is true, indeed, that he arraigned Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke of gross impropriety, for their having given to me the information which I had demanded from them. He then remarks, that I "evinced a disposition to vindicate those gentlemen." The disposition was, in truth, evinced pretty unequivocally; for I checked Major Baillie with great austerity, observing that if I did not ascribe his proposition to the intemperate agitation of his mind, and thence regard it as an argument which he would not seriously maintain, I should feel it incumbent on me to remove him directly from his station. I explained, that it was the duty of every English gentleman to apprize the Governor-General of any incorrect conduct in the Resident, who might otherwise continue in a course of behaviour deeply injurious to the State, without the Governor-General's obtaining knowledge of so serious a mischief. The accuracy of Major Baillie's memory with regard to other parts of the conversation, may be judged by one point of his representations, to which there happens to be collateral evidence. He advances, that I expressed a desire to confront those two gentlemen with the Nawaub Vizier. Now those gentlemen did make a formal claim upon my justice to be confronted with the Nawaub Vizier, asserting that they would produce three of his Excellency's servants who would maintain on oath, to his face, his having repeatedly uttered before them the complaints which Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke had disclosed. My answer to each of the gentlemen was, that no consideration could justify me in subjecting an independent Sovereign to such humiliation: his word must be taken implicitly. Let it be judged what is the degree of probability in the statement, that I had expressed a desire to confront the Vizier with those gentlemen.

75. I now proceed to consider the circumstances of Agha Meer's elevation to the Ministry, the causes of his present disgrace, and the question whether or not our interference on his account would be expedient.

76. In my note of the 30th November 1814, I expressed it as my firm conviction that the retraction of the complaints, whether well or ill-founded, against Major Baillie, had been effected by an intrigue, the reward of success in which was Agha Meer's nomination to the ncābut. The issue of the intrigue, and the means by which it had been effected, I conceived to be nothing to me. Attention had been paid to the testimonies of Captain McLeod and Mr. Clarke, only as they elucidated the Nawaub Vizier's wishes; and when he thought fit to say that those representations did not convey his real sentiments, the question dropped. With regard to his Excellency's nomination of a Minister, I was bound by my own declaration to leave his choice uninfluenced, unless in the case of his selecting some individual of such known hostility to the British Government as would be likely to subvert the alliance. There was, of course, no motive for my intervention. I had not, at the time, any clear conception of these strangely-perplexed transactions. Major Baillie's own account has thrown considerable light on the subject; and, certainly, had I then possessed the clue which he has furnished in his report, he would not have been left in the situation of Resident at the Court of Oude.

77. In the consideration of a fit person to be minister, it seems that my prejudices intervened to the injury of public concerns. "My conviction that the "only person worthy of the trust was a person whom his Lordship had rejected "on account of his connexion with me," is the preliminary statement of Major Baillie. He afterwards enlarges thus: "Mirza Jāfer, the most respectable person from talents and birth, and the most desirable from attachment to our "interests that was then to be found in the capital, was proscribed, or supposed "to be proscribed, by the Governor-General's displeasure." It would then appear that my distaste to the Resident, extended to Mirza Jāfer on account of his connexion with Major Baillie, prevented the person the most respectable, the most capable, and the most devoted to the British Government, from being invested with the office of Minister. What ought to be thought of this representation when there never had been a motive or a circumstance, on which the surmise

surmise of any displeasure of mine against Mirza Jāfer could be grounded? No shadow of any such displeasure existed. Major Baillie, indeed, did not venture to bring forward that person as a candidate, because when his views in that respect had been removed, it had been hinted to him that I could not fail to think the choice objectionable. It was obvious, that the naming for Minister a Moonshee who had been the Resident's confidential agent for a long term of years, would have been to hold up the Vizier to all India as more strongly shackled than ever in those trammels from which I had professed the determination to liberate him. The example of Saadut Aleë's mortifications had been, in my judgment, of great injury to our interests, by disinclining other Princes to put themselves under British protection. I sought to counteract this impression; and my object would have been thoroughly defeated, had a fresh proof been exhibited how little the Nawaub Vizier was allowed to be independent in the internal government of his country. Either from a sense of this obstacle, or from a desire to make it the excuse for giving to Agha Meer the preference on this occasion, the latter was the person brought forward. The appointment of Mirza Jāfer would have been felt by the Nawaub Vizier as the most mortifying proclamation of his Excellency's insignificance that could have been devised. The expression of joy on the part of his Excellency (witnessed by Mr. Ricketts, Mr. Adam, and Mr. Swinton) when he was told that the retention or dismissal of Mirza Hajee, and the other sons of Mirza Jāfer, depended entirely on his own pleasure, sufficiently manifested his acute sense and jealousy of impending thralldom. Wretched, indeed, was the subjugation, when he could not think himself at liberty to remove one of his own household servants! This point should not be passed over without noticing the terms "proscribed" and "dis-pleasure" more particularly. It is the same attempt which I have before exposed, of exciting by an irrelevant word the supposition of a non-existent circumstance.

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78. It seems that Agha Meer, by whose personal influence the retractation was effected, was only the tool of Ulee Nuckee, the Resident's own Moonshee; that it was from him Agha Meer took his lessons and went armed with instructions to work upon the fears and passions of the Vizier. Where was the inducement for Agha Meer to take so active and so hazardous a step? Are we to believe that the neābut was the proffered reward? What hope could he have of such an elevation, but through that recommendation of the Resident's which was sure to operate as a command? When the counsels of Ulee Nuckee to Agha Meer are avowed, suspicion must fix itself strongly on the Resident as having been a party to the project. Let us see how further circumstances bear out the supposition.

79. Agha Meer was, in his inferior station, the ostensible favourite of his Excellency at the time; but there seems good reason to believe that, before this retractation, he had been gained over to Major Baillie's party. He was in the habits of attending constantly at the Residency; and from Major Baillie's account* it would appear to have been his usual practice to retire home in the evening with Ulee Nuckee, Major Baillie's confidential Moonshee. There, at the house of the latter, was the plan conceived which was to produce a recantation of the complaint preferred by his Excellency. There, as is acknowledged, was the favourite spirited up to undertake the part assigned to him. Now let any man ask himself, would Major Baillie's confidential Moonshee have risked his master's displeasure, the loss of situation, and every thing he possessed in the world, had he not known he was doing what was agreeable to his patron, even if it had not been preconcerted between them? But the question is superfluous. Major Baillie makes open profession of the merit he conceives to attach to the services of Agha Meer for the part he had in the transaction.†

80. The merit rests upon the assumption, that Agha Meer undeceived the Nawaub Vizier, and gave him courage to emancipate himself from the danger of supporting a falsehood into which he had been betrayed: a service which could not but secure to him the confidence and warm gratitude of his Excel-
lency

* Para 89.

† Para. 53.

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lency in a higher degree than he had before possessed them. This is another point of the internal evidence of the case which shall be discussed in its place. Whencesoever the sudden turn had proceeded, and whatsoever my observation of a degree of stage trick might be, it was my business to be satisfied, as soon as I had ascertained from his Excellency's own mouth what was the construction which he wished should be received. Immediately afterwards, his Excellency was called upon to name a Minister: I had, at the instance of Major Baillie, previously objected to the man on whom the Nawaub Vizier's choice had rested. This was Hukeem Mehdee, the adviser of his father, whom I was taught to think hostile to the interests of our nation; and I declined advising further. Major Baillie was solicited by his Excellency to assist him in the selection of another man to be placed in nomination in the Hukeem's stead. Major Baillie's report of the conference which followed cannot be read, without its leaving the impression that he sought to lead his Excellency to the conviction that the nomination of no one would be so wise, so acceptable, or so proper, as that of Agha Meer. No one else appears to have been named on the occasion. Every trifling circumstance in favour of this individual seems to have been exaggerated and earnestly pressed upon his Excellency, while every thing of a disqualifying nature, however gross and palpable, was put out of sight. It is obvious, as well from what preceded as from what followed the conference, that the nomination of Agha Meer was the act of Major Baillie. Amidst all the candidates that had presented themselves, his Excellency seems never to have thought of Agha Meer before this conference. Though the latter was said to be his Excellency's personal favourite, he had been placed in no high situation, and never had been employed in the transaction of important business. He was reported to be of low origin; and were there any certainty of his being a Syud by descent, the fact would not militate against the supposition of his having been nurtured among the dregs of the people. His birth, however, would have been of little consequence, had his personal qualities recommended him to distinction. Unfortunately this was not the case: his figure was coarse, his manners unpolished, and his intellect generally estimated below mediocrity. He had not had the opportunities of drawing, either from study or from active employment, any tolerable degree of the information requisite in his position. Of course, the appointment occasioned general surprise, and I believe was very unfavourably regarded at Lucknow. Major Baillie ascribes the elevation of this person to the Nawaub Vizier's sense of the service just rendered to him by Agha Meer, as well as to his Excellency's partiality for this servant. The Vizier's contemplation of the service, as well as the strength of his attachment to Agha Meer, will appear from subsequent events; but the service might have its merit elsewhere, and thence have received its reward. The efforts Major Baillie has since made to maintain Agha Meer in power in opposition to his Excellency's wishes, are strongly corroborative of this view, and shew a decided identification of interest between them. Still gratitude for the immediate aid was not, I am disposed to conceive, the only reason assignable for this nomination. Major Baillie must have known Agha Meer's incapacity: he knew also the unbounded influence possessed over this man by his own Moonshee; so that by bringing forward a creature of his own of such character and qualifications, he secured to himself an uncontrolled authority in the affairs of Oude. This, I have no doubt, was considered as genuine policy with regard to public objects by Major Baillie, and the establishing such an influence would have been expedient, had it not been inevitably liable to abuse by the natives connected with the Resident. Events fully justified the apprehension of that consequence; for there can now be no doubt, that as long as Agha Meer continued in power, the result was as Major Baillie must have foreseen, expected, and sought, the ministry having been virtually in the hands of his own Moonshee, Ulee Nuckee.

81. Agha Meer's disgrace so soon after his elevation is easily accounted for. Granting even that his nomination was not entirely forced upon the Vizier, but that he was at the time viewed with sentiments of predilection, his Excellency must have very soon discovered that he had been won over to the opposite interest, and was engaged in schemes and guided by advisers regarded by his Excellency to be hostile to his independence. His Excellency's partiality was thus changed to that sort of vindictive hatred which usually pursues the detected falsity

falsity of a favourite. For a time we may suppose the fear of offending Major Baillie to have had a predominant influence in his Excellency's mind, and to have restrained the expression of this antipathy or an immediate resort to the measures it might suggest. His Excellency had already once been defeated in his attempts to shake off the trammels of thralldom, and it was only gradually, that he could recover sufficient confidence to renew the struggle. Indeed, we may observe in the caution with which each step was taken, and in the mode by which his Excellency proceeded from one asperity to another, until at last the supposed favourite was disgraced and imprisoned, that though the enmity was deep and irreconcilable, there was something which forbade its full disclosure in the instant. This we can only imagine to have been an apprehension of the consequences from Major Baillie's resentment, while there was no hope of its being checked by myself. The only remaining question with respect to Agha Meer is, whether or not he is to meet with the support of our Government now that he has irrevocably fallen under his master's displeasure. This must turn on a decision of the question, What ought to be our policy with regard to the State of Oude?

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82. The system of attracting the Native Sovereigns into subsidiary engagements, the work of a truly able statesman, had its inherent defect. Lord Wellesley was amply sensible of it; though, with that judgment which perceives that in human affairs you are not to stand still on account of an objection, but must be satisfied with a course where benefit far preponderates against inconvenience, he wisely compounded for the eventual embarrassment. He predicted the difficulty which would at length occur as to the nature of our interferences with the States which had paid for our protection; but he could only say, that the remedy must be devised when the exigency should happen, as its quality would have to depend on the circumstances of the moment. What has taken place in Oude, however, has not been altogether the effect of the causes embraced by his foresight. Some management, which I cannot but consider as having been erroneous, produced the evil in a degree beyond any natural tendency in the contract. To judge of this accurately, the ground whence all reasoning on the subject ought to proceed must be first established.

83. When the heavily reluctant assent of Saadut Alee was obtained for the cession of a large portion of his dominions, in commutation of the pecuniary contribution which he was bound to pay for the subsidiary force, the most distinct assurance was pledged to him, by treaty, for his independent exercise of authority within the remainder of his territories. A right of counselling him on matters which might affect the joint interests of the two contracting powers was indeed stipulated in the treaty. The construction of this article, however, cannot, with any show of justice, be extended beyond that right of remonstrance, and of ultimate interference in extreme cases, which of necessity belongs to a protecting power relatively to the State protected. A provision for it would have been superfluous, had not there probably existed some apprehension, that should the right not be specifically reserved, it might be understood as barred by the direct acknowledgment of the Nawaub Vizier's independence. An attempt to fix upon this article a more comprehensive sense, would convert into an act of lawless oppression the acquisition of the territory in question; since it could not have been honestly obtained but by the granting an equivalent, which equivalent was the recognition and guarantee of the Nawaub Vizier's rights of sovereignty. The punctual observance of this contract was imperiously binding on our honour, our probity, and our interests. I have specified the last consideration, because I conceive that an unfortunate mistake on that head made our Government think its intervention legitimate on matters not really attended with the justification of any necessity.

84. On accepting, or rather on insisting upon the provinces in question as an extinction of the annual money payment secured to us, it is indisputable that we renounced all pretension to intermeddle with the administration of the remaining territories of Saadut Alee, unless in cases where the evident peril of the common cause should sanction remonstrance. This line was not well understood in practice. The supremacy of the British power was thought to be relinquished, if it was not rendered visible in every transaction. The representations

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representations of the Nawaub Vizier against what he thought a breach of faith, and which he attributed more to the dictatorial temper of the Resident than to the plan of Government, occasioned perpetual contestation. The spirits became acrimonious on both sides. Statements from the Resident, naturally more favourable to his side than strict equity would have borne out, betrayed Government into steps whence it could not recede, and which established pretensions never in its cool contemplation. The matter had been gradually getting worse and worse till the time of Major Baillie. He adopted the system which he found fashioned to his hand, and from its nature the dissensions with the Nawaub Vizier could not but become virulent. The Resident, backed by an authority against which resistance must be fruitless, had no terms to keep with his Excellency beyond the screening himself from having direct indecorum proved against him. A similar policy was incumbent on the Nawaub, so that, under the display of every civility and the observance of every etiquette, reciprocal malevolence was indulged by the practice of every covert artifice that could be irritating and offensive. To sustain himself in this warfare, Major Baillie was under the necessity of embodying round his standard such natives as could by influence, dexterity, and boldness, best aid him in riveting the fetters which he thought it necessary to impose on the Sovereign of the country. They were essentially recognized depositaries of his power, and that power was understood to be undistinguishable from the authority of the Governor-General. Confident in this irresistible support, those natives had no restraint on the ostentatious parade of their influence. Prosecuting their private gain by means of this trust, they contumeliously disregarded the Nawaub Vizier, thwarted his measures with impunity, and treated with undisguised contempt the legitimate functionaries employed by him. It was impossible that this behaviour, and the abuses which accompanied it, should not outrage the feelings of the Nawaub Vizier. The Resident could not sacrifice those dependants to his Excellency's indignation, without giving up all hope of keeping together a party. He was, therefore, constrained to uphold them in confessed opposition to their Sovereign: nay more, he was obliged to pay their services by extorting for them advantages from that Sovereign; and to maintain his own power in this ruinous contest, he was (however unintentionally) forced to assume, by the identification of himself with the British Government, an appearance of sway over the Nawaub Vizier that carried with it the most poignant insult.

85. Soon after I had occasion to advert to our position relative to Saudut Alee I became aware of impending consequences which filled me with the utmost alarm. That Prince was driven to actual desperation: he had even openly declared it in full durbar. The mischief had proceeded so far, that if we continued to assert the principle advanced for us, there was no avoiding a decisive struggle. I saw that we were on the brink of being forced, in self-defence, to possess ourselves of Saadut Alee's dominions and riches, to prevent his throwing himself with all his treasures into the hands of any power that would take the field against us. Whatsoever might have been the exigency that impelled the procedure, it would have entailed eternal stain on the British name; for the case was in no manner capable of explanation sufficient to do away the presumption of our having forced a quarrel on the defenceless, as a colour for atrocious plunder. Under the impression of the first informations received by me on the subject, I had urged the Nawaub Vizier to the enforcement of the plan of reform which it was said he had agreed to undertake. His explanation of its having been his conception that the measure was to be carried into execution gradually, as success should encourage its extension, came to me at a moment when I had obtained from different unprejudiced and unquestionable authorities, a tolerable notion of the state of society in Oude. I was thoroughly satisfied, that there were not to be found there enough functionaries, uniting sufficient capacity with honesty, to conduct the plan at once on the wide scale demanded by us; since it was evident to me that nothing but the unremitting vigilance of European superintendence in each of our Zillahs, prevented the grossest abuses under that system in the Company's possessions. From this conviction sprang the modification expressed in my letter of the 25th March 1814: but I should have thought that I had contemplated the evil very imperfectly

imperfectly had I stopped there. I meditated a more radical assuagement of the Vizier's ulcerated mind, the nature of which I explained to my colleagues in Council, namely, the defining the duties of the Resident, in such a manner as should preclude the affectation of control so inevitably irritating to that Prince.

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86. The policy which appeared to me recommended no less by our convenience than by our good faith, was to observe strictly the true and obvious spirit of our engagements with the Sovereign of Oude, by leaving him a free agent in the internal government of his own dominions, interfering with that advice which to him must be injunction only in cases where the real importance of our mutual interests required it. By the adoption of this principle, I obtained from Refaut-ood-Dowlah, in an hour of exigency, an assistance for the Company which never could have been procured during the miserable bickerings of former management. The counsels of Major Baillie appeared no deviation from the plan, because they were understood to be solicited by the new Sovereign; and I had only desired Major Baillie should be reminded of the wisdom of letting them be invited.

87. The first symptom of misunderstanding between Refaut-ood-Dowlah and the Resident was a delay, on the part of the Nawaub, to carry into effect the original plan of reform to which he had subscribed implicitly. I am persuaded the demur with regard to the districts into which the reform was not introduced, arose from the difficulty of finding persons fit to be trusted with such large powers; and it is an important fact, that Lieutenant-Colonel Fraser, charged with the care of suppressing the insurrections which broke out in different parts of Oude during last year, reported as the cause uniformly assigned by the inhabitants for those convulsions, that the extortions practised by the Ameens under the new system had driven the country into madness. The offer of the Resident to provide competent persons did not remove the embarrassment. The proposal touched an acute string of the Vizier's jealousy. Compliant as he had been on other points, he seems to have been cautiously on his guard against strengthening a combination of his subjects, from which he had seen his father suffer so much; and he probably dreaded the putting into situations of great influence individuals whom he regarded as devoted to the Resident. The proposition was inconsiderate. Sincere gratitude was, I doubt not, felt towards Major Baillie by the present Nawaub Vizier as long as the latter believed that many plots against his succession and life had been defeated by the Resident's energy. When his Excellency, from a more distinct view of matters, began to doubt that those dangers had existed in the degree represented, it was natural for him to imagine that an exaggerated claim of merit had some interested aim, and he probably scrutinized with undue severity the measures which Major Baillie had pressed upon him at the moment of his accession. I have mentioned that, while yet I could not suspect any thing of this disposition in the present Vizier, I had thought it expedient to have a hint communicated to Major Baillie against such urgency. The Nawaub Vizier could not fail to have it indicated to him, that almost all the points requested of him by the Resident (though they had been chiefly sanctioned by the late Governor-General) tended to enrich individuals who had acted under the Resident against Saadut Alee. Major Baillie has noticed the unfortunate estrangement which existed between Saadut Alee and the present Vizier. That the late Nawaub preferred for the active station of Minister and commandant of the troops his second son, on account of his superior talents, is certain; but that he had the project of setting his elder son aside from the succession (a design which he must have known this Government would never allow), or that he treated him in any manner that revolted the present Nawaub, is to me highly questionable. I never heard Refaut-ood-Dowlah speak of his father but with tenderness and veneration. Many things were mentioned by him to me that tended to throw a grace on his father's memory, and I know that he was singularly gratified by my having visited the grave of Saadut Alee. I thence infer, that he looked with an evil eye on those who had been banded against his father, and that he was soured with Major Baillie by his importunacy with him (Refaut-ood-Dowlah) in furtherance of their views. I suspect that the first symptoms of this dissatisfaction were manifested as both ungrateful and contumacious by Major Baillie,

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Baillie, who possibly imagined the Vizier to be more weak in capacity than I believe is really the case, and thence deemed such a tone likely to be effectual. The Nawaub Vizer, if I conceive his character rightly, is singularly timid, and has perhaps bowed himself before an assuming control; but I could never in his manners, his conversation, or his procedures, discover any thing which justified a supposition of his being deficient in intellect. I suspect that he had sagacity enough to comprehend the advantage taken of his nervousness, to carry points on the sudden which he would not have conceded in the ordinary course of business, and that his reflection was indignant at the management. If I am right in this conjecture, the violence of his Excellency's resentment against Agha Meer, when the latter had associated himself to the counsels of Major Baillie, is readily accounted for. It is certain the dislike, without any cause assigned, was visible very early after Agha Meer's elevation. All the influence which Major Baillie supposed himself to possess was inefficient towards suspending the course of this dissatisfaction. When that minister was sent on the mission to me at Futtygurh, Major Baillie represented that Agha Meer had many enemies working against him; and the Resident therefore earnestly begged that I would shew to the man such marked testimonies of my regard, as might induce the Nawaub Vizier to take him again into favour. The application appeared odd; because when Major Baillie had declared his Excellency to be sensible of the injury done to him in the late transactions, to be full of contrition for having lent himself to the suggestions of intriguers, and to be glowing with gratitude at Major Baillie's generous remission of the fault, it did not seem natural that any influence beyond the Resident's could be necessary to reinstate a servant of such tried and approved fidelity as Agha Meer in the good graces of his master. During the whole of Agha Meer's stay at Futtygurh, I not only treated him with unvarying attention, but with such public distinctions as he had never before received, and even with constant demonstrations of cordiality. These tokens of good-will were unfeigned, because I really gave him credit for firm attachment to the British interests. Notwithstanding this countenance, and his being furnished by me with a letter to the Nawaub Vizier, in which I professed the most favourable opinion of him, he remained in unalterable disgrace; nay, he became the object of harsh persecution. The cause of this is considerably unfolded by a circumstance which took place after the arrival of Mr. Strachey (the successor of Major Baillie) at Lucknow. His Excellency entreated Mr. Strachey not to employ Ulee Nuckee as Moonshee at the Residency, saying that Ulee Nuckee had been the cause of all the differences with Major Baillie.

88. A suspicion may possibly now occur, that Major Baillie perceived the hatred of the Nawaub Vizier to be in progress towards acknowledging itself; that he foresaw the impossibility of maintaining his ground at Lucknow, and that he resorted to the excuse of being undermined to account for his expected dislodgment. That I had any pointed prejudice against him certainly appears not to have been in his conception, when he could apply to me to shew particular attentions to Agha Meer, whose connection with him he knew me to understand. Subsequently to that period he did take alarm. On the investigation of facts asserted to me in a petition, there appeared reason to fear that use had been made of the name of our Government to obtain the Vizier's decision on a case in violation of the laws of the country. It was a question of inheritance and landed property between one Imteaz Ulee and Ulee Nuckee. The Resident had often pressed Saadut Alee to determine the cause in favour of his Moonshee. Saadut Alee constantly replied, that it was an affair to be decided by the tribunals in regular course. Major Baillie insisted, that when the British Government (which had no right to judge) had already decided on it, as was testified by his application, it would be indecent to have it tried in a court of law. One of the first points carried with the present Vizier on his accession by Major Baillie was a decision in favour of Ulee Nuckee. The petition of Imteaz Ulee was a representation of the injury done to him by the British Government, in obtaining a decree against him without his having had a hearing. I saw no cause to suspect that Major Baillie had been actuated by other partiality than that which arose from regarding Ulee Nuckee as a partizan of the British Government. The mode of rewarding such a person did not appear to me correct. I thought an injurious act of oppression had been unwittingly committed

mitted by the British Government, and I felt bound to repair it. I directed Major Baillie to solicit that the Nawaub Vizier would annul his decree, and place the parties in their original situations, and would refer the matter to the ordinary course of law. Whether Major Baillie erroneously construed this into an indication of ill-will on my part towards him, or whether he feared it would be an opening for the Nawaub Vizier's avowal of sentiments hitherto repressed, I cannot guess; but I am persuaded this intervention was a proximate cause of the framing a despatch which he must be sure would entail his removal. That despatch, though dated the 29th April, was not forwarded till after the period to which I allude.

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89. With respect to the question whether we should support Agha Meer, I am clearly of opinion he cannot be maintained. The attempt would be an infraction of principles which I consider as fundamental in our relations with Oude: but, further, it would lead to extreme practical embarrassment. To retain Agha Meer in office, we should have to undertake the entire administration without any adequate excuse for such a violation of the treaty.

90. It remains now to determine on what principles the connection and intercourse between the British Resident and the Court of Oude shall be regulated henceforth, and what degree of interference is to be exercised in the nomination or appointment of a successor to Agha Meer, should we deem it necessary to insist on such an appointment taking place. Even this, however, may be matter of deliberation. His Excellency has decidedly expressed his wish that Agha Meer should be dismissed, and that no Minister should succeed him on the same terms, but that the obedience of all his servants should be secured by their sense of immediate and exclusive dependence on himself. The first question is, whether our Government should acquiesce in such an arrangement? From the nature of our connection, from the terms of the treaty between the two States, and from the admitted practice of former times, it would appear that we have an undoubted right to offer our advice in the conduct of the affairs of the Vizier's Government, more especially to exercise the right by insisting on the appointment of an efficient Minister, if we think it necessary, and conferring with his Excellency in the selection. There is, indeed, no limit to the control by advice and injunction we might exercise in the internal administration of Oude, except such as policy or a sense of justice and of propriety, may induce us to impose on ourselves.

91. It is on the ground of policy that I propose to consider the question. On general principles, I must confess it to be my wish, as I have already explained, to refrain from authorizing the practice of constant interference in the domestic concerns of our allies. Now, I should conceive there can be no species of interference so galling and subversive of the independence of a Prince, as to insist on the appointment of a particular Minister, and to uphold his authority in opposition even to his master, because he is conceived to be favourable to our interests. The tendency our alliances have to slide into the habit of such interference, is the very circumstance that has made a connection with us so unpopular, as only to be sought or acquiesced in when a State is on the brink of ruin. At this instant Holkar prefers the insults of his army and the being confined within the fortress in which he has sought refuge, to embracing the servitude of our protection. Why? He has had legible examples before his eyes.

92. It is obviously our policy to remove this impression, by making the yoke of our supremacy as invisible as possible, while the advantages of our protection are so manifest. This is the broad bearing of the question.

93. With respect to Oude in particular, our practice and our views would not, perhaps, in theory extend so far, because the selection of the person to be Minister is left with the Vizier, and we only assume the privilege of urging a special ground of disqualification in case such objection should justly exist against a particular individual. It comes, however, very nearly to the same thing. We insist that the person named shall be one known to be favourable to the interests of our Government, which usually means a dependant of the British Resident, or at least one who has been in the habit of courting his favour through the hope of rising to power by those means; for how else is a favourable disposition to our Government to be manifested?

94. There

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94. There have always been two parties at the Court of Oude; one consisting of those who look forward to rise to power by means of the British Resident, the other courting the personal favor of the Prince; each in its turn has been strongest, as the Vizier has himself retained the power, or the Minister has engrossed it through the exertion of the influence of our Government.

95. During the lifetime of the late Vizier, as his favour was the predominant influence, it was only the malcontents who had lost or despaired of ever obtaining the favor of their Prince, together with a few immediate Moonshees and dependants that formed the Court of the British Resident. These, when disappointed in the objects of their ambition, represented the persons enjoying the advantages of the Prince's favour as hostile to the British interests, and themselves as martyrs to their espousal of our cause. Major Baillie would seem to have lent too ready an ear to the whisperings of such courtiers; and when, on the accession of the present Vizier, his party came into favour, his conduct appears to have had for its object the annihilation of the opposite interests, and the demonstration to his own courtiers that his favour was the only secure road to power.

96. I had unconsciously lent myself to a course of measures which had nearly enabled him to effect this, when the Nawaub Vizier was induced to make another effort in support of his own influence and authority. This effort produced the crisis in which we are now called on to deliberate as to the policy to be observed in future. Had not so complete an insight into the nature of Major Baillie's conduct been afforded me, I might perhaps have been misled by false representations respecting the character of Agha Meer and the circumstances which have occasioned his fall, to have lent him the same support which was formerly lent to Hyder Beg Khan; and this, in giving the finishing stroke to the independence of the Vizier's Government, would have entailed no light embarrassment. Such an extremity is now out of the question. Shall we, however, insist upon the appointment of another Minister in opposition to his Excellency's wishes?

97. The arguments in favour of such a measure are, that it gives a consistency and responsible character to the administration of affairs, and produces a concert with the Representative of the British Government not to be shaken by the insidious suggestions of private favourites, whose influence on the weak minds and fickle dispositions of Princes, like those of this country, might otherwise be productive of danger to our interests. Such an argument amounts to an admission, that to produce the advantages in question the Minister must be a man of our own, exercising in effect the whole power of the State, under our steady support, against what we may call the whims and caprice, but what must obviously be the pleasure and wishes of the Prince. This could scarcely be so disguised, as that the Prince should not feel all the humiliation of his dependence, and his secret enmity must be the inevitable consequence.

98. If it be politic to have the Minister in our interest, how much more desirable would it be that the Prince should be attached to our alliance; and how is it possible that he can be so, if he feel our interference and encroachments thwarting his inclinations in every step?

99. Is attachment to our alliance to be obtained by any means from the Prince himself? Can we hope to excite in him a firm and operative persuasion of the identity of our interests with his own, and a consequent disposition to meet candidly the expression of our views and wishes? If the inspiring a Prince with these sentiments be practicable there can be no necessity for a Minister. But if we assume that there can be no attachment to our alliance; if neither a sense of the advantages attending it nor a fear of the consequences of our displeasure can be expected to produce a disposition to listen favourably to our suggestions; if a jealous hostility, and constant spirit of counteraction, be considered as the necessary attributes of a Native Prince's unfettered administration, then should we be justified in seeking to provide a remedy.

100. There is but one intermediate question between ~~the~~ decision. Are we to assume at once that such is the incorrigibility of every Native Prince's

Prince's disposition, or are we to wait till overt acts shall have determined the point?

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101. For my part, judging from the character of the present Vizier, I see no reason to think he would hazard the displeasure of our Government by pursuing a course of counteraction. On the contrary, I believe him to have the fullest conviction as to the identity of his interests with ours, and the necessity of seeking and following our guidance in every particular. He will certainly seek to obtain our assent to his own spontaneous inclinations; but this is natural, involves nothing reprehensible, and affords no ground for anticipating his perseverance in any scheme which he should find us disapprove. Since, therefore, it is his wish to conduct the Government himself, I see no reason why he should not be suffered to do so, until either his management betrays symptoms of the entire unaptness of the system he may pursue, or until we should have just occasion to question the sincerity of his disposition towards ourselves. Then will be time enough for us to offer such advice as the peculiar circumstances may require, and if necessary to procure the appointment of a fit and efficient Minister; but until such may be the case, I scarcely think we should be justified in thwarting his wishes.

102. When I recommended to the Nawaub Vizier that he should nominate a Minister, I had taken up with too little examination an object which I had found already urged upon his Excellency. The constant jealousy with which Saadut Alee received the suggestions of Major Baillie made the latter think that he should carry his points more readily were a Minister established who would consider propositions dispassionately. Under the unhappy estrangement which existed between Saadut Alee and the Resident, the intervention of a Minister was evidently desirable: the plan was thence strenuously pressed by Government, and I supported the measure which I found actually in negotiation. Since I have seen the state of matters at Lucknow the point appears to me of doubtful policy; at least it is of no material consequence.

103. Under such circumstances, what course should the British Resident pursue? He should obviously stand aloof, and keep himself entirely unconnected with any party. He must be ready to offer disinterested advice whenever his Excellency may solicit it, and his conduct should be so shaped as to encourage his Excellency's frequent recurrence to his counsel; but his suggestions should not be obtrusive. He must be careful to impress his Excellency with a conviction that he has no personal adherents to countenance, no dependants whose interests the measures he recommends may appear calculated to forward, to particularize no one set of men whose opinions or whose cause he might be represented as having exclusively espoused.

104. By such means a real confidence would, it is hoped, be established between the Vizier and the Resident, from which the happiest concert and unanimity of counsel would result; because there can essentially be no difference between our interest and that of the Nawaub Vizier, on any point worth contestation. A decision eligible for us on minor objects ought to be foregone rather than that he should be soured by pertinacious contradiction where his own feelings appear warmly engaged. A cheerful relaxation to meet his Excellency's wishes in such cases would make him more readily manageable on subjects of greater consequence. Judging from my own knowledge of the qualities and dispositions of the gentleman I have selected to succeed Major Baillie, I think I may anticipate the permanence of such an understanding between him and the present Vizier.

105. I would have the Resident always careful how he originates advice when it may not be solicited. If he observe any department of the State requiring a correction in its administration, it might be better that he should first submit a statement of the grounds of his entertaining such a notion, and obtain the sanction of the Governor-General in Council before he proceeds to break the subject to his Excellency. The advice should only be proffered unasked, without such authority, on occasions of importance not admitting of delay. The Resident's first obtaining the permission of the Governor-General in Council before coming

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forward with it, would impress his Excellency with a proper sense of the reserve and delicate consideration observed in matters which might be construed as encroaching on his independence. I am very far from wishing to fetter the Resident in his communications. Much must depend upon his personal character and the terms on which he may individually stand with the Vizier: besides, occasions may arise, in which a reference to the Presidency may be either inconvenient or improper. In those instances he must use his own discretion, and he may be confident of receiving that liberal support to which the high trust of his situation entitles him.

106. It will, of course, be his duty to keep himself well informed of every thing that is passing at the Court of Oude, directing his attention particularly to the effects of the administration on the body of the people, so as to be able to supply Government with correct and full information on a subject which will necessarily be at all times one of high interest with us.

107. The above are the general principles which should regulate the intercourse and connection of the British Resident with the Court of Oude, in the event of its being deemed unnecessary to insist on the appointment of another Minister. I am desirous, however, of hearing what the Council may think on this point; and my opinion is not so fixed on the expediency of having no Minister, as that I should not be ready to yield it, in the event of there being any more peculiar motive advanced for a contrary decision than what has suggested itself to me.

108. Should it eventually be deemed necessary to insist on the appointment of a successor to Agha Meer, we must depend on the Resident, in the first instance, for a full report on the present state of parties at Lucknow, so as to enable us to weigh carefully the character, qualifications, and circumstances in favour of each candidate. We should then have to fix with more precision the line of the Resident's future conduct with respect to the Vizier and the person who might ultimately be selected; but, at present, the preliminary question of whether or not we shall insist upon the appointment of a Naib to succeed Agha Meer, is obviously all that presses upon us.

109. In conclusion, it may be expected that I should offer some observations on the subject of the attempted reform, to which, in a great measure, the Vizier would seem to attribute a considerable confusion in his affairs. I have already expressed doubts whether the system, such as we enjoined it without modification, be suited to the condition of society in Oude, though I would not, without minuter observation, positively pronounce it inapplicable. It is possible that partiality on the one hand, or insidious design on the other, may have pushed into the trust of its execution men wholly unqualified for the duty: still it is more likely that a system devised upon the model of that pursued in our provinces should have failed in the territories of the Nawaub Vizier, from the want of a class of public functionaries of approved integrity, free from sordid views, to be accomplished at the expense of the country, and unwarpd by families or dependants whom they could be interested in aggrandizing. I should wish, however, before coming to a final determination on the propriety of persevering in this system or otherwise, to receive a full and comprehensive report on the subject from the Resident, whence I might judge what have really been the endeavours for its introduction, and in what degree any such endeavours may have been locally successful.

Fort-William,
3d February 1816.

(Signed) MOIRA.

Enclosure.

To Major Baillie, &c. &c. &c.

My dear Baillie:

Having replied officially to your several despatches, and signified to you the Governor-General's instructions on such points adverted to in them as demanded immediate notice, I now proceed to state to you, by his Excellency's desire, some observations arising out of the perusal of those despatches which have been reserved for a private communication.

You

You will not consider these observations to imply any retraction of the approbation which his Lordship has conferred on your conduct. They principally refer to the future rather than the past; and when they do relate to the past, they are not intended to cast censure on you.

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After so long an experience as you had of distrust on the part of Saadut Alee, it is perfectly natural for you to be gratified by a sense of your influence over the present Vizier; but you should thence, his Lordship observes, be on your guard not to let the sentiment carry you away so far as may hazard the permanence of Refaut-ood-Dowlah's amiable disposition. You must not suffer the confidence which he places in you to be worn out on minor objects. Importance, his Lordship observes, has been unavoidably attached by you to the arrangements for Hoosein Alee Khan and the family of Tuhseen Alee Khan on account of the urgency of our Government on these heads. His Lordship then does not cast any blame on you for leading the attention of Refaut-ood-Dowlah to those cases, yet he sincerely wishes that it had not been done. Although his Lordship felt himself obliged to uphold, to a certain point, what had been done by the preceding Government, and must therefore, in consistency, give his public approbation to the carrying those objects, yet his Lordship has no scruple in saying that he thinks the principle of our interference was erroneous. It amounts, in his Lordship's judgment, simply to this: that a servant of the Vizier's is to be recompensed, not according to his master's estimate of the man's fidelity towards him, but according to our appreciation of his services towards us; services which might have been repugnant to the feelings and interests of that master.

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Revived as those claims were immediately on the accession of the present Vizier, they bore rather the semblance of conditions imposed upon him. Now although a legitimate advertence to our own position entitled us to secure to Refaut-ood-Dowlah the peaceable occupation of the musnud, it behoves us to shew that we did not take that step for the purpose of achieving petty ends, and in proportion to the magnitude of the obligation conferred on that Prince, his Lordship would be delicate as to every measure which might ostensibly detract from his independence with regard to internal Government.

His Lordship had occasion, not many months ago, to convey to the Government of Fort St. George instructions for the guidance of the Resident at Mysore in his intercourse with the Rajah. Although the circumstances are not the same, yet the general principle intended to be enforced by those instructions appears to be so applicable to your situation at Lucknow, that his Lordship has desired me to send you the enclosed paragraphs, and to recommend them to your earnest and deliberate attention.

The dignity of our own character, our good faith with regard to the unambiguous spirit of the treaty, and in no lesser degree our wisest policy, require, in his Lordship's judgment, that the Vizier should be left free from a counsel which must savour of dictation (especially in domestic concerns), unless when some object really essential may demand our intervention. What has just been stated refers to our future relations with the Vizier; for in all that was requisite for establishing the government of Refaut-ood-Dowlah, it was indispensable that you should take the decision on yourself.

That the Vizier should, in his present circumstances, spontaneously and unfeignedly wish to yield himself to your ability and experience, his Lordship cannot doubt; but it is to preserve that wish in him hereafter that we must labour. A coyness as to offering advice will be found by you the surest mode of obtaining the Vizier's confidential recurrence to you on every important occasion. There is a great distinction between that resort to one's opinion which is only made from formal deference, and that application to one's judgment which springs from a conviction of one's disinterestedness. The latter, devoid of the secret reservation which must attend the former, becomes a habit, and ensures willing acquiescence in every sentiment one would wish should be adopted.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) J. ADAM.

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To J. Adam, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

My dear Sir :

Till I read the letter from Major Baillie transmitted by you, the existence of such a man as Gocul Chund was unknown to me. Little as I could imagine that any officer in my military suite could have intercourse with a person of that description, I still thought it necessary to question the gentlemen, who all disavow their knowledge not only of him but of any other attendant on the fleet not actually attached to the boats. Such of the civil service as I am in the habit of seeing frequently have similarly been questioned by me and make the same answer. But had the case been that any of those individuals had been intimate with Gocul Chund, no suspicion could have rested on any one of them; because to no person whatever now with the fleet, except Mr. Ricketts and yourself, have I ever in the remotest manner mentioned the affairs of Oude. At Calcutta, the Members of Council alone knew my opinion. It is a subject which I could not have the most distant notion of discussing in any other manner than officially: the quotation, therefore, of my sentiments imputed to Gocul Chund is sheer extravagance. Now I will express to you frankly my conviction, that Major Baillie has not himself believed one word of the story. He has been spurring a free horse rather too hard. He finds the Nawaub at length tired of going at such a rate, especially when the incessant objections of interested persons throw doubt on the expediency of the measure, and he wishes to accredit any other reason for the Nawaub's present delays than his own want of tact in driving the man too sharply.

My opinions on the head of reform are on record in the letters addressed by me to the late Nawaub Vizier, and they are so explicitly stated, that the copies of those letters transmitted to the Resident can leave nothing doubtful on the subject. I believed, as I still believe, a reform in the administration of the revenues of Oude to be necessary. I had found a specific plan recommended to the Vizier by my predecessor. Of the real applicability of that plan to the country I could form no judgment; therefore I rested on the local knowledge of those by whom the plan was framed, and I urged the adoption of that specific reform as a system which had been found practically the best in our territories. We were not entitled, however, to dictate (a distinction which Major Baillie seems never to comprehend), but to advise; so that were there in that particular plan any thing humiliating to the personal feelings of the Vizier, it would be a gross violation of the precise terms and obvious good faith of the treaty, were we to subject the Vizier to it. I thence addressed to the Vizier a letter of a tenor to bring that question to a point, professing that, although the specific plan of reform had been recommended as the best which our own experience could enable us to offer, I did not wish to press it, if it contained any thing which the Vizier regarded as injurious to his dignity; and I requested he would, in that event, consult the Resident, and fashion a plan which might be more palatable to himself. All I required was that the plan should be efficient, warning the Vizier that it was his interest to make it so, it being my determination that the British troops should not be employed in supporting rapacity or oppression. This exposition appears to me strangely superfluous; yet since Major Baillie appeals to you for my opinion respecting the reform, I have thought it right to recapitulate the principle on which I have acted, and to state that it is the principle on which I mean to act.

Major Baillie, with an oblique indication of the necessity for his exerting a stronger degree of influence over the Vizier, hints at the possibility of his own relinquishment of the station when his successor may find it indispensable to exercise a more efficacious control over the Vizier's conduct. You may assure Major Baillie that I will not countenance in any other man, more than I would in him, the attempt to hold the Vizier in a state of subjugation. The behaviour of the Nawaub Vizier might become such as virtually to dissolve the existing treaties, and to place him in a situation where nothing but his own convenience and security, as contrasted with the interests of the British, could come into contemplation. In that possible (though I do not think it probable) juncture, another species of corrective than that which I have now mentioned

must be enforced ; but as long as our relations with Oude shall continue on their present footing, I must consider the humanity, the justice, and the honour of the British Government strictly bound to preserve to the Nawaub Vizier that essential independence of internal administration and that respectability, which were secured to him by the pledge of British faith, when he surrendered the whole of his dominions to be modelled at our pleasure.

I have, &c.

16th September 1814.

(Signed) MOIRA.

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Minute,
8 Feb. 1816.

To J. Baillie, Esq., Resident at Lucknow.

Dear Baillie :

Lord Moira has desired me to transmit to you the enclosed Persian paper, which was sent to his Lordship in a mysterious way by the circuitous Dák of Moradabad. The paper is so scurrilous and calumnious, that his Lordship was inclined to save you from the annoyance and trouble of reading it ; but, on the whole, he has conceived it to be better that you should be informed of what was thus brought to his notice, with a view to keep nothing concealed from you, and to enable you, if necessary, to trace the author. It professes to give an account of the present state of affairs at Lucknow, but which his Lordship is satisfied is totally unfounded in every point. There are, however, two or three alleged facts advanced, on which his Lordship would be glad to receive information from you, *viz.*, respecting the birth, parentage, and education of Agha Meer, and his declared total incapacity for public business ; respecting the person appointed collector or Aumil of the district of Lucknow, as it is impossible to suppose that a child could ever have been nominated to that situation, in the manner asserted ; and respecting the person who conducts the duties of Aumil of Soaree, and the alleged alienation of a part of that pergunnah in Mokurreree in favour of Ulee Nuckee.

Your's, &c.,

Futtygurh,
6th June 1815.

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS.

Enclosure.

Two things are requested of the gentlemen of illustrious dignity into whose hands the recital of our calamities may fall, first, that they will be kind enough to read the whole through carefully, and not be out of temper or displeased on account of its length ; secondly, that for the sake of God and the Prophet Jesus, they will be careful and observant, that when it may be translated into the English language for the information of the Governor-General, the import of a single word or construction may not be overlooked, as the ruin of the complainants may be the consequence, and in that case on the day of judgment the hand of the sufferers of the city of Lucknow will be on the garment of the translator (in demand of retribution) ; but let all the gentlemen study to ascertain exactly the true meaning of the whole, and they will receive of God an ample recompense.

It not having been thought proper to send this by Lucknow Dák, through fear of Ulee Nuckee ; it has, accordingly, been forwarded by a distant Dák. (It came *viâ* Moradabad.)

Recital of the Sufferings of the distressed Citizens of Lucknow, for the Information of His Excellency the Earl of Moira, Governor-General.

Distich.

" He is a friend who tells the faults of his friend, and brings them present
" before him as in a looking-glass."

The writer has been for some time the faithful servant of the Company's appointment, nor can his heart bear to see contempt of the officers government become the by-word of all classes ; but

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more especially is he indignant at the disrepute of so great a chieftain as that peer, son of a peer, descendant of peers, that noble son of a noble, descendant of nobles, the most noble of lords, the Nawaub Governor-General Lord Moira Behauder (may his glory increase), the rumour of whose arrival has for a long time raised hopes in the inhabitants of Hindoostan that they would obtain, through his means, every kind of retribution, justice, and prosperity. In the days when, by the good fortune of this devoted, his Lordship arrived at the city of Lucknow, he found the nobles of the city weeping and the poor of the city lamenting; and were the reason of this to be asked, the whole of the inhabitants of the city would answer with one voice in complaints against the Resident, and regret at the want of attention in such a Governor-General. In the judgment of your slave, that the Governor-General has not done justice; that he has not paid sufficient attention to the sufferings of the inhabitants of the city; that he has given power in all affairs to the Resident; and to such a Resident, who placing his sense of justice and of honour upon the shelf, and falling into the lusts of the brittle things of this world, has given himself into the hands of his Moonshee, Ulee Nuckee Khan, a man whose character is about to be set forth at length. That the Governor-General has done all this, is stamping in the page of history his own name as the source of all our sufferings. Does he not fear that the reputation of so illustrious a Governor, whose conduct and principles are celebrated and current over the seven climates (whole world), from Evan and Tooran even to Rami (Constantinople) and China, and which is in the habits of intercourse with all the kings of the earth, more especially in the time of so merciful and just a Governor, will be affected by our complaints. It cannot, therefore, be from any cause but a want of a proper information on the subject, that all this has been suffered to occur; nor can I understand upon what principle other illustrious gentlemen should have sacrificed the cause of justice to their personal regard for the Resident, notwithstanding our loud and incessant cries for retribution, and should not have brought the sufferings of this city to the notice of the Governor-General. I, an individual, now propose to bring them forward; and I entertain a confident hope that, agreeably to that innate regard for justice which is the characteristic of the English nation, and which has procured for them this extent of dominion, some gentlemen will, from a disinterested public spirit, impress the whole of this subject in all its bearings upon the particular notice of the said Governor of exalted dignity, and they will obtain a reward in this world and the next, both for themselves and for him who has from pure disinterested motives taken the trouble to draw up this paper.

The source of all our distress can only be traced to the coming amongst us of the dregs of Hindoostan, street wanderers and beggars, strangers to the principles of government, and to their being brought to the head of affairs; but more immediately is it to be traced to the blindness which appears to exist to the crooked policy of the Resident, which has raised such men to power, and brought ruin on the people of God. The neglect of the Governor-General when at this city has given additional confidence to these upstarts; and how can it be otherwise? but if such oppression is openly practised even when the Governor-General is in the neighbourhood, God only can tell what will happen when the Governor-General may be obliged to return to Calcutta, and with what injuries these upstarts will not then visit us. My sincere and faithful heart, on perceiving the sufferings of the inhabitants of this city, and becoming convinced that the blame which has attached to so great a Governor-General on their account is purely attributable to the wiles of the Resident, is desirous of giving information of the real state of the case. And of a truth, now that the Governor-General will have been informed of all, his sense of justice will leave him no choice but to visit the oppressors with befitting retribution.

Distich.

" I tell you what it is the condition of speech that I should make known
" (viz. truth). At hearing it (it remains with you) e' 'ake offence
" or advice."

The

The detail of what I have to represent is as follows :

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In the time of Lord Minto, the late Nawaub Saadut Alee Khan was much grieved and distressed at the oppressions committed by the Resident under the support of Mr. Edmonstone. This is known to every gentleman and to the world at large, and these vexations were bringing him near his end, when he was sustained for a short time by hearing of the intention of Lord Moira to visit Lucknow in person; but of a sudden, from the changeable revolutions of heaven, the measure of the life of that traveller on the road to eternity became full to the brim with the mortal poison of death, and on the 22d of Rujeeb, 1229 of the Hijjree, notwithstanding that his heart was full of a thousand hopes, his former vexations so bore him down, that he made the clay tenement of his existence a house of mourning (that is he died). It was an act which calls for justice, that on the death of so illustrious a Vizier, neither the Resident nor any of the English gentlemen attended the bier of the deceased or performed the dues of mourning. Beyond this would have been hypocrisy; but the Resident finding he was nearer his object in consequence, with every appearance of joy and conviviality, in the very place where the coffin of the deceased was lying, ate his breakfast and drank his tea, and in another the Nawaub Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder Khan, next heir to the deceased, was seated on the musnud of the Vezârut. At this very time the Resident, by means of Agha Meer, now called Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, and through the mediation of Ulee Nuckee his Moonshee, plundered lacs of rupees in money and goods, and he also took the opportunity to open a drawer of the table and got possession of the book which had been prepared by the deceased Vizier containing all the crimes of the Resident, in order that they might be laid open to the Governor-General on his arrival. The Nawaub Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder Khan having perceived that his father's affairs had been ruined by the hands of the same Resident, was most fearful for himself from a continuation of the same injurious conduct: He therefore put up with all that was going on from helplessness; but as the reported approach of the Governor-General gave him strength and confidence, he was induced to open his mind to him at Cawnpore and at Lucknow. All his accusations, however, came to nothing. At that time, on the very night of one of the communications, Moonshee Ulee Nuckee sent for Agha Meer and said to him: "Now is your time, you may now get the neabut from the favour of the Resident, and you will also place him under infinite obligations: you will not have such another opportunity. You have only to do what the Resident now bids you. Go, then, to the Vizier, and say to him, 'You are a fool and out of your senses. You have acted very wrong in bringing accusations against the Resident. Do you not know that it is in the regulations of the English Government that the Council should remove any one that accuses the Resident, for it is a breach of the treaty, inasmuch that the Vizier Ulee was put off the musnud for this very fault in having brought complaints against Mr. Resident Lumsden. The Governor-General has now determined to seat Shums-ood-Dowlah upon the musnud, and has written to Council on the subject, and the Council are in the Resident's interest, of which their support in the time of the late Vizier is sufficient proof.'" Agha Meer and Ulee Nuckee having before been on good terms, and indeed like father and son, Agha Meer was persuaded by the Moonshee, and went and told the Vizier just what he had been directed. The Vizier was disturbed and not in his right senses, so he believed it all. Agha Meer and Ulee Nuckee immediately mounted an elephant together and went straight to Beebepoor, where the Resident was, and making him acquainted with all the circumstances prepared a draft of a razee-namah, to the tenor of which a deed was to be brought in the writing of the Vizier. Agha Meer accordingly returned to the Vizier's presence, and having caused the deed to be written in the prescribed form according to the draft, carried it to the Resident, and it was by his advice and that of Ulee Nuckee that Captain McLeod and the other English gentlemen were caused to be turned out with disgrace and ignominy, and were ~~all~~ ^{ordered} to give back even any little articles which the late Nawaub ~~had~~ ^{gave} them with in token of his favour towards them, and that

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that too in a most disreputable manner, to the scandal and disgust of all, whether noble or otherwise. Agha Meer and Ulee Nuckee boasted of this aloud in public, saying "Look how degraded and debased I have rendered the English, even when the Governor-General is on the spot; and had the Vizier delayed one instant signing the razee-namah, you would have seen him in the state that Vizer Ulee is now. You see that the Governor-General has no help for it but to be guided by the Resident's judgment." On hearing this from Ulee Nuckee, every thing appeared to be the reverse of the usual principles of English Government (and no one believed it at the time); until at last, as was promised by the Moonshee, Agha Meer was invested with the neābut, and the Governor-General took his departure towards the west. In this plan it is necessary that the observer of the state of this ruined neābut, and of those who are connected with it, should bear at the same time the Governor-General's excellent qualities in constant recollection.

The badness of the Resident's administration, and the want of attention on the part of the Governor-General, has been the support of all this confusion: Hence have the sufferings of the people of God, the mismanagement of the affairs of the Vezārut, and the squandering of treasure and property collected with the labour and care of years, become the talk of the intelligent of all countries. Be it known, that Agha Meer (now called Moatumud-ood Dowlah Mookhtaur-ool-Moolk Syud Mohummud Khan Behauder Zeighum Jung) is the son of Mohummud Nuckee: The same Mohummud Nuckee who was for years a beggar in the streets of Lucknow; and when the nobles of the country used to distribute alms, this Mohummud Nuckee would rush forward importunately before the rest of the Fakeers to seize his pittance, and for every pice he would be turbulent and noisy and would be every where thumped and kicked: the people of Lucknow have seen this with their own eyes. It is not to be supposed that a man in such a situation could have the means of marrying; but be a man a Fakeer, he is not on that account without the lusts of the flesh, so the said Mohummud Nuckee took to himself a wretched woman of no character, who lived by begging here and there a few fuloos. As it happened a daughter was born from this said woman to some man with whom she had before had connection, such a child as they call in Persian a madur huloo; and after some months more another child was born of her to Mohummud Nuckee, and that was this Agha Meer. The knowing ones differ on this point: some say Mohummud is the undisputed father, others again that the real father is unknown; but there is no doubt the child was born while the mother was in the keeping of Mohummud Nuckee. In short, until the auspicious age of Agha Meer reached the period of fifteen years he was a wanderer in the streets, and attached himself to the class of labourers employed in building and repairing houses for men of substance. At the time when the Vezārut of Asuf-ood-Dowlah descended to his son Saadut Alee Khan, Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder Khan Behauder came with his father from Benares, and took up his residence in Muhtab Bagh, in the palace built by Asuf-ood-Dowlah deceased, enjoying the almonership to the Syyuds in distress, as is customary in this Government for the heir apparent. A man named Merza Hyder Ulee of Lucknow, taking compassion on the apparent distress of Mohummud Nuckee, the father of this Agha Meer, assigned for his maintenance a pension of five rupees per month out of the fund for distressed Syyuds; and since he was himself very old, this Agha Meer, his son, used to come to the present Vizier, then heir apparent, to receive his father's pension of five rupees. By degrees he got himself enrolled amongst the Khidmutgars; and from this may be traced his rise and present elevation. In course of time the treasuries which for ages this Government had been employed in filling became entrusted to the Prince Ghazee-ood-Deen Hyder. Agha Meer kept the keys of the treasuries for his master, and embezzling the treasure secretly diverted the public resources of the State to his own private expenses, giving a part to Ulee Nuckee the Moonshee, in the hope of winning over him by this means. Now the Nawaub Ghazee-ood-Den Hyder of the Vezārut, and as Agha Meer had before been

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as

terms with Ulee Nuckee, particularly in the course of the embezzlement above-mentioned, they now also are in such way in league together that they preserve the good-will and confidence of the Resident, as has indeed before been hinted. Besides all this, since the present Vizier was foiled in his wishes, Agha Meer having obtained the neābut by the Resident's means for having brought the razee-namah with the Vizier's seal, and having been invested with the khillat of the situation, now rules with arbitrary power in the affairs of the Vezārut. But those who are about the durbar in the present times see enough to convince them that Ulee Nuckee Moonshee is in truth the absolute master of all, and has the power of loosing and binding in all affairs, whether general or particular. Agha Meer, notwithstanding his ostensible neābut, spends every day at the house of the Moonshee and does nothing without consulting him. In return, the Moonshee goes to the house of Agha Meer, and enjoys with him the entertainment of nautching, &c. Hundreds of acts of oppression, however, are daily committed by Agha Meer in the course of his transaction of business. A few examples shall be stated. First, he has caused to be dug up the houses of hundreds of persons, noble and otherwise, that the materials may be employed in building a palace for himself. The furniture of these houses is left a prey to all the loochas of the city, and not a rupee is paid for any thing. The poor, whose houses he has destroyed, have been thrown upon the world in their wretchedness. Also by means of Roshun Ulee (son of that Madur Huloo, daughter of the mother of Agha Meer, who is now known as his sister), under pretence of mending and making roads, he has knocked down thousands of houses, and many of the muhls (wards) of the city of Lucknow have been deserted in consequence. Agha Meer himself spends his nights and days in drinking and in the company of women of the bazar. The administration of affairs exhibits symptoms of this. The land revenues of the Vizier's Government amount to one crore and forty lacs of rupees; but though the year is approaching its end, one-fourth of this amount has not been collected, neither is there any one who looks to the settlement of the country or to the accounts of the revenue. But what excites yet greater wonder and scandal is, that in the house of Agha Meer, which is contiguous to that of the Resident, you hear nothing all day but the sound of the drum and the voices of singers from the bazar, with the rioting of the loochas of the city, the friends and companions of Agha Meer; and the Resident, notwithstanding that he has delicate nerves, as indeed is usual with the English, encourages this riot. Indeed Ulee Nuckee, though seventy years of age, is a party in the debauches. The disrepute and scandal attending such transactions are not unknown to men of undertaking. Ten thousand rupees a month is the private salary of Agha Meer; what further he requires he takes from the public treasury of the government without restraint, and applies to his own purposes. In these days some lacs of rupees and many strings of pearls, besides other jewels and wearing apparel, have been embezzled from the public treasuries of the Vezārut; and one day, when he was called to account for this by the Vizier, he said it was necessary for the proper management of affairs that he should keep these things by him; and although the Vizier is aware that Agha Meer divides the whole with Ulee Nuckee, still he is obliged to remain silent and wink at it, through fear of the Resident and from want of attention in the Governor-General, as before experienced. From pure helplessness, being reduced to the situation of one out of his senses and without a will of his own, the Vizier has taken to eating bong night and day, thus verifying the moral of this stanza:

“ Oh king! from so much wine, what fruit can be expected ?

“ From such infinite drunkenness what fruit can be expected ?

“ The king is drunk, the world is ruined,

“ Fools surround him on every side :

“ From such confusion what fruit can be expected ?”

The whole territories of the Vezārut have been divided into six Zillahs. The first, the *Shahjahanpore*, the jumma of which has been fixed at thirty lacs of rupees, the son of Agha Meer, has been selected to make the

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collections of it, the age of the said collector being at the present moment two years. He is the son of a prostitute by profession, and it is by no means certain that Agha Meer is his real father, as she is a woman of the bazar and has never been married to him. Agha Alee, the said collector, is still at the breast, and cannot distinguish between his mother's milk and the salary of 2,000 rupees assigned for his maintenance. Weigh this in your mind, ye of acute perception. The second Zillah is Sandee and the district of Shah Rah, &c. with the jumma or assessment of thirty-five lacs of rupees. This the Resident has assigned to his own Moonshee for his personal benefit. The nominal collector of it, Kootub-ood-deen, the Moonshee's nephew, never in the course of his life had more than thirty rupees per month allowed him by Ulee Nuckee; but now that every thing belonged to the Vezārut is exposed to every sort of plunder, and the said nephew nominally is allowed a salary of 2,000 rupees, besides ten per cent. on the collections of the Zillah, he gets for his personal salary and emoluments 100 rupees a month and no more: the rest is all enjoyed by Moonshee Ulee Nuckee, under the countenance and support of the Resident himself. The oppressions also which the Moonshee has committed on the Chowdries of Sandee, and the circumstances of his knocking down all their houses, are well known to the officers of the Governor-General. The object of my representation is this: that alas! the Vezārut, with all its splendour, high reputation, and with such stores of treasure, should come to ruin in the time of so noble a Governor-General; that the sufferers of the city should experience misery and oppression and no one listen to their cries.

“ How can you hear the cries of supplicants for redress: you have dropt
“ towards the universe the bed-curtains of sleep. Sleep so that the cry of
“ distress may reach your ears, whenever it may be raised by a supplicant for
“ justice.”

The circumstances under which Dhoomee Beg, the Cutwal, poisoned himself through dread of Agha Meer, the confiscation of his house and property without any legal right, to the ruin of all his heirs and relicts, who have indeed been since imprisoned, all which has been done by Agha Meer without any interference of the Resident to procure justice: God knows upon whose neck will be the weight of these crimes.

This humble supplicant has a question to put to the Resident, to which I call upon him, in the name of God and the Prophet Jesus, to give a just and true answer: whether the appointment of Agha Meer to the nabut, and the fixing of his salary at 10,000 rupees a month, besides what he embezzles from the public treasuries and the bribes he extorts from the people of the city by threats of knocking down their houses; whether the appointment of his son and infant to the collectorship with a salary of 2,000 rupees; whether the placing so low a character over the heads of all the nobles of the city and giving him authority over them, is not bringing ruin upon the country and confusion into all the affairs of the Vezārut? What other consequence can result from it, but that the house of the late Vizier will be plundered and the people of Hindoostan subjected to degradation and ignominy, while your family and fortunes and those of your Moonshee are enriched from the spoils? This I ask of the Resident and of the Governor-General, whose glory and splendour are so transcendent. I ask him how he can rest contented when his reputation is taxed with all this? Although the Governor-General is no way a sharer in the stain of those advantages which the Resident obtains, but on the contrary is more disinterested, magnanimous, and dignified than any Governor-General who yet has come to Hindoostan, still why does he subject himself to the imputation of palpable neglect, and act entirely on the Resident's representations? For God's sake let him cause them to be investigated and confirmed by some gentleman who has some sense of religion and justice; and since Secid Peshaud, the Ukhbar Navees, has the orders of the Resident not to report as they actually are, should any credit attach to the representation of this, let a man be sent privately, and one entitled to the affairs of the city as they are, so that its state of ruin be made known, as well as all the unworthy acts of his

keeping company with all the loochas of the bazar, his going about the streets on foot and giving gross abuse to all the chiefs and most respectable men of the city, complaint of which being made to the Resident he forbid its being noticed in the Ukhbars, lest it should reach the ears of the Governor-General. For all this every one knows how much the Resident is abused and complained against. How excellent is that saying :—" Let not the crown and throne adorn every one. There needs but one king of auspicious fortune, on whom the shadow of the Almighty may have fallen, and whose conversation may not be without wisdom."

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Now, however, it has been given out that this Naib, with all this weight of infamy, of dishonour, and of oppression upon him, is about to go to the presence of the Governor-General, through the management of the Resident, and he is accordingly making further embezzlements from the public treasury on the plea of its being necessary to prepare for his appearance in due splendour; and in this, also, is he assisted and countenanced by the Resident, who wishes him to make an appearance equal to that of Hyder Beg Khan when he went to meet the Governor-General Marquess Cornwallis, and he himself expects to obtain equal honour, and to have his jagier confirmed in the same manner. He has several objects in this mission. First, to get the neābut in perpetuity and complete independence; second, the assignment of jagiers; third, to secure the continuance of Ulee Nuckee's concern in the Government, let who will be appointed Resident; fourth, that he may at least secure his continuance until the Resident may resign his situation. These are the Naib's objects in going to Futtygurh. But it is requested of the Governor-General, in the name of God, that he will not suffer the affairs of the hills to occupy his attention so much as to keep all other affairs from his mind. But it is in justice necessary that he should not act implicitly on the representations of the Resident, to the sacrifice of his own innate judgment. Let him observe how base is the Naib of the Vezārut, and from what parents he is descended; that he was brought up in beggary, and though now raised to the high dignity of the neābut, his innate baseness shows itself in all his actions. To raise to an equality with the nobles of Hindoostan, and to place in authority over them a low fellow who used to feel constantly the smart of the blows and slippers of the Vizier, (insomuch that this was the usual treatment he met with), is to give offence and disgust to all the really noble, and to subject all that immense wealth, which is the property of the community, to the profligate waste of so low a fellow, without any pretensions from former services, or present qualifications. On what principles can this be justified? Lastly, this Naib and Moonshee Ulee Nuckee, who has become, as it were, a tender father to the Naib, said in public durbar, that the Governor-General had need of much money on account of the hill war at present waging. " Whatever he may need I will furnish him from the Vezārut treasury: and though the fortunes of the Vezārut should be ruined, I will nevertheless have what I want, so that I may secure the Resident in my favour; and as he is so, the Governor-General must necessarily come into my views, nor could there be for me a more propitious moment than the present." Alas! that so low a fellow should sit with such a Governor-General on a footing of equality; that he should talk so sillily, and other Sahebs of high spirit should bear it, and prevent true reports of all from reaching the Governor-General's ears.

This is a sketch of the present state of the neābut. Listen a little to an account of the Naib's connections, for on no side are agents of oppression wanting. The chief of them is Roshun or Buwahr Ulee, son of that Madur Huloo, daughter of the mother of Agha Meer, born in the house of Mohummud Nuckee. This Roshun Ulee availing himself of the power and influence of his pretended uncle, commits all kinds of oppressions in the city and destroys houses that have stood for hundreds of years, the property of the nobles and other of the city. This man goes amongst the people by the title of Suruk. Suruk-ool-Moolk Boom Jung (viz. the Suruk of the State, the owl of war). At last, however, the Suruk was ordered by an order from the Vizier, after an angry dispute, to be stuck up, by which means they at last reached

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reached his cars. Not however till he had taken thousands of rupees in bribes, and he then took credit to himself for having procured the suspension of his doings. This man has dealings night and day with the women of the bazar, and even goes to their houses. Another of the Naib's people is one Usud Ulee, whose father used to keep a perfumer's shop at Jounpore; he is of the Kimdhu tribe, and left Jounpore about twenty years ago to become a street wanderer at Lucknow. For some time, indeed, he practised his villainies in the adawlut of Lucknow as Vakeel but was turned out by the late Vizier, who was satisfied of his unfitness and misconduct. Now, under the support of Moatumud-ood-Dowlah, whose power is absolute in the courts, he has got himself called judge, and avails himself of the situation to plunder the city. He abuses grossly, even to their faces, Moolvee Juhoor Ollah, Moolvee Wullee, and the other members of the Court, who are of respectable families; nor does any one dare to open his mouth (in their favour) through fear of the Resident Behauder. There is also one Ruhmut Ulee, formerly a Mohurrer of the dewannee court of Lucknow, but turned out for misconduct by the late Nawaub Vizier, who has been appointed Mooftee in these times by the said Usud Ulee, though neither a man of learning nor descended of men of learning. Alas! for these times, that such is the state of the Vezārut! that such is the way with the Governor-General's glory! that such is the admirable character of the Resident for integrity and trustworthiness! But how can Kulpee escape from ruin, when Mullan Muddun (the saint) keeps a ginshop (applied apparently to the Resident).

The whole of the umlah are of the same description as the above, that is, all those who have obtained their situations, through the Naib and Moonshee Ulee Nuckee. Since they have come into power, in the affairs of the Vezārut, only loochas and street-wanderers have been promoted. Let the Governor-General send for them and judge of them by trial in his own presence, when the sincerity of this communication will be appreciated. The head and leader of all this confusion, the chief of this band of ragamuffins, is that Ulee Nuckee, who by the countenance and support of the Resident has set all this in motion. The title with which he has been honoured is Mussulleh-ood-Dowlah. The translator of which has only to insert a few nooktas (points) when the real import of his name will be discovered.

This humble suppliant has represented these things at so much length, in order that the gentlemen of just principles may gather from the whole some slight idea of what is passing. The said Moonshee was for a long time in a state of distress, but by playing the game of cunning and deceit, in which he is of a truth most expert, he has been brought by the revolutions of fortune to a pitch whence every thing is at his beck. The Resident has confided every thing to him, insomuch that those people of respectability and high family who were before acquainted with the Resident and enjoyed his friendship and counsel, have lately been kept away by the unworthy conduct of the Moonshees into whose hands the whole authority of the Vezārut has descended. His obtaining the whole Zillah of Sandee, with its settlement of thirty-five lacs of rupees, has before been mentioned: of this he has taken off four hundred villages and got himself an istemrarie tenure, at a jumma much below the rate of former years, causing himself to be acknowledged Zemindar of this tract, and he has turned out those he found in found in possession and pulled down their houses. This man has reached the venerable age of seventy years, notwithstanding which he has lately seized and enjoyed by force a young girl of the labouring class, daughter of a Bildar, who had come to Lucknow for employment.* The father and mother of the girl went to the Resident to complain, but the Resident said nothing to the Moonshee, but ordered the complainants to be turned out. What power would the Nawaub Vizier have to grant redress? He dare not breathe through fear of the Resident. The Moonshee has also knocked down hundreds of houses contiguous to his own, in

* A petition to this effect has been received. The girl is about eighteen years old, and to work publicly in the streets. The story is incredible.

thirteen or
fifteen years
old, and to
work publicly
in the streets.
The story is
incredible.

in order to make use of the materials in enlarging it; and notwithstanding that all these houses are close to the Residency, (nothing is said to him). In short, it only remains for the Governor-General to exercise his sound judgment and high authority, to ascertain the fitness of the Naib, and to redress the wrongs he has committed; and since the Governor-General has given over to such people unbridled authority, and with his eyes open taken upon himself all the ill repute which attaches to such conduct, the inhabitants of the city of Lucknow have been able to account for it in no way but by attributing it all to the wiles of the Resident. First, the Resident causes the Vizier to understand, that if he does the slightest thing contrary to his wishes he will have Shums-ood-Dowlah raised to the musnud in his room. Then he says to Agha Meer, "Were you not at Khidmutgar before I raised you to the rank you now hold? In the event of any opposition I will again reduce you to your original state." Then he writes to the Governor-General that the Vizier is a fool, and if affairs go on well it is only through the management of Agha Meer assisted by Moonshee Ulee Nuckee, both of whom are devoted to the English Government. (He writes also) That the Vizier is not displeased at any thing that passes. In short, there has been a wonderful exhibition of juggling and slight-of-hand tricks.

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Since the Governor-General has been made acquainted with all this chicanery, and still out of regard for the Resident does not exercise his own judgment in the discrimination of the true from the false, he has on that account incurred the imputation of neglect amongst the people of this Government. Your slave, who is the sincere well-wisher (of the English Government), has forwarded this representation, after verifying every thing he has stated by enquiries amongst those who have access to the Resident's office and from the Vizier's private companions; and he affirms that the Vizier holds Agha Meer in complete detestation as well as the Resident's pride, and that though he did express something of the sort to the Governor-General, that nevertheless he had no real desire that the English gentlemen should be turned out; but they were so, and he dares not open his mouth through fear of Shums-ood-Dowlah's being placed on the musnud in his room. He however is, night and day, sighing and weeping at the ruin that has come upon his family and fortunes, and at the tyranny exercised on the people of the city by their oppressors. He passes every day in fear and trembling for his own honour, much less has he the means of affording redress. If you do not give us redress, the day of universal retribution will come. The dominions of the Vezārut are subject to the control of the Governor-General; why then has he placed in authority those few (pajees) low fellows, and why does he suffer the public wealth to be thus wasted? Let him take the country under his own dominion; the Vizier could not say a word in opposition: but if, as is more agreeable to the principles of English government and to justice, it be thought more proper to observe treaties and keep promises, in such case, it cannot be just to suffer the fortunes of the Vezārut to go to ruin in this manner, and that too in the time of so just a Government, or that the treasure which has been years in accumulating, should thus be wasted. It is, of a truth, all your own; but it is far from good policy or wisdom, to suffer yourself and the other gentlemen of high dignity to fall under the reproach of neglect and inattention. The writer of this is altogether free from all connection with the affairs of this Government, and has made this representation merely from a disinterested regard, and from a desire to prevent these creatures of tyranny from bringing the glory of the English Government into disrepute through the whole world.

I have loved to you information of things exactly as they are.

acquainted with them and you know your own plans.

copy :

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

To

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Minute,
3 Feb. 1816.

To C. M. Ricketts, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

Dear Ricketts:

I have received your despatch of the 6th instant, and I am highly sensible of the kindness and liberality of the motive which induced Lord Moira to direct this anonymous paper to be sent to me. A production very nearly the same, except in so far as my name is concerned, was stuck up against a wall in Lucknow several months ago, and his Excellency the Vizier offered a large reward to the author if he would come forward and avow it.

The imputations against me are certainly quite novel, though as a continuation of the proceedings of October last they are not much to be wondered at.

Regarding the birth and education of the Minister, and the circumstances of his appointment to office, the best information I can offer is contained in the enclosed extracts from the rough draft of a narrative of the memorable occurrences of October, which I have lately been engaged in compiling, and which I hope soon to submit to Lord Moira in official form.

The nominal collector of Zillah Lucknow is certainly what the anonymous author states him to be, or nearly so. He is a boy of three or four years of age, I understand. It would be strange, indeed, if among so many falsehoods and fabrications, a few circumstances were not to be found that have some foundation in fact. The true circumstances of this case are as follow: On the division of the country into Zillahs, the Vizier very naturally gave the patronage of one Zillah each to the Minister and Dewan, knowing of course that they could not be holden in their own names nor the duties discharged by themselves. The Minister being himself the naib of a boy, very naturally gave the name of his only son for his office, and recommended for the duties of the station, as his son's Naib, Sheikh Emām Bukhsh, an efficient revenue officer, who was put in nomination, as you know, for the high office of Minister by his Excellency, at the suggestion of the Sheikh's friend, Mr. Clarke. The duties of collector, &c. of Zillah Lucknow are accordingly performed, and I believe very well performed, by Sheikh Emām Bukhsh, as the Naib of Agha Alee; a name that I first heard of when I received the letter from the Vizier, a translation of which I submitted in my letter to Mr. Adam of the 8th April last. Lord Moira is doubtless aware, that his Lordship's explicit instructions preclude any interference on my part in the appointment of the Vizier's officers; and, in fact, I know nothing of these matters but by the reports contained in the akhbar, and occasional communications from the Vizier which he makes to me now-a-days very rarely.

The nominal and actual Zillahdar of Sandee, &c. is Syyud Kootub-ood-Deen Hoosein, a near relation of my old Moonshee (another perverted truth in the anonymous paper), who was for ten years a Tuhseeldar of the highest reputation in Bundelcund, as is well known to the Board of Commissioners, and particularly to Sir Edward Colebrooke, who relieved Kootub-ood-Deen from his duties in Bundelcund, at my particular request, about a year ago. The late Vizier, when he agreed to the reform, requested me to recommend to him some able and upright revenue officers acquainted with our regulations, and this person was one of a few (your acquaintance Taj-ood-Deen among the number) whom I named to his Excellency on that occasion. He came over about a year ago, and was appointed Ameen of the pergunnah of Sandee, in which situation he conducted himself so much to the satisfaction of the Vizier and of Colonel Burrell, whose reports are on record in my despatches to Mr. Adam, that his Excellency raised him in December last to the office of Zillahdar, and announced this appointment and the cause of it, as above stated, to me. The annual revenue of his district for last year was sixteen lacs of rupees (not *this* as the anonymous author has stated), of which fifteen only were realized, as I understand from Rajah Dya-Krishen that the revenue has been raised by Kootub-ood-Deen this year to nearly eighteen lacs, with universal satisfaction of the landholders.

My old Moonshee got his zemindary in Sandee of Lord Minto, as you know; and the pre-
exceedingly kind to the Moonshee, granted

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It is to be regretted, I think, that you did not report the circumstance of the appointment of the Minister's *child* to the important office of Zillahdar of the district of *Barahat*, as your doing so would have given his Lordship an opportunity, had he chosen, of communicating his sentiments on the subject to the Nawaub. It is, however, that non-interference, generally speaking, has been recommended by the Government of his Excellency's officers: but may not some distinction be made in the case relating to the reform, which was rather an affair of the *Nawaub*, and on which he looked to receiving advice from the British? It is needless to observe that its success will depend on the best system to be introduced and to the best selection of instruments, and that on general principles

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ciples the same confidence cannot be reposed in a deputy as in a person specifically appointed at the head of an office.

The circumstances mentioned by you of the grant of an istemrarie, or perpetual lease of an estate, in the pergunnah of Sandee to Ulee Nuckee, and of the appointment of his near relation to the office of Zillahdar in that pergunnah, will be noticed to you by Adam, I believe, in a letter respecting the claims of Imteaz Alee and others against Ulee Nuckee.

You remark that the agents of Hukeem Mehdee, of Akbur Alee, and of Imteaz Alee have long been in attendance at Futtygurh, though you are at a loss to know why they have been encouraged. Of the first I know nothing, and nearly as little of the second, save that he presented petitions which were forwarded to you, and that, on the receipt of your answer, he was told that nothing could be done in the case by his Lordship. With respect to Imteaz Alee, his petition was also forwarded to you, and a reference has been made to the proceedings to which you referred. The result will be communicated to you by Adam, agreeably to his Lordship's orders, as above stated.

Many thanks for your suggestion on the question of recompense to Home: it relieved his Lordship from embarrassment, and enabled Lady Loudon to settle with Home. The picture, therefore, is, I now hope, in his Excellency's possession.

Your's, &c.

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS.

Futtygurh,
29th June 1815.

Fort-William, 7th November 1815.

Political Department.

1. Had you any acquaintance with the present Nawaub Vizier, Refaut-ood-Dowlah, previous to his coming to visit the Governor-General at Cawnpore?

I have been acquainted with the present Nawaub Vizier since Sir George Nugent's visit to Lucknow in 1812.

2. When you, at Cawnpore, asked Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie's permission to wait upon the Nawaub Vizier, was it a private audience that you requested, or did you only desire leave to pay your respects to his Excellency in public?

I asked Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie's permission to wait on the Nawaub Vizier, in consequence of a personal invitation to breakfast which his Excellency gave me when returning from his first visit to the Governor-General. I neither solicited, nor had I any private audience or conversation whatever with the Nawaub Vizier.

3. Were there, at that period, shawls or jewellery sent to your house, either antecedently or subsequently to the visit paid by you to his Excellency?

After breakfast some trays containing three pieces of shawls and a surpeash of false stones were laid before me. On my expressing my wish to take only one pair of shawls, the gentlemen of his Excellency's family said it was unusual for any one to decline accepting such presents, and that it would particularly displease the Nawaub were I to do so, as he had often to them great friendship for me and surpeash were my house. They were at Lucknow.

4. On the occasion upon which you took Captain McRa with you to breakfast at the palace at Lucknow, had you any invitation from the Nawaub Vizier?

I had no invitation from the Nawaub Vizier.

5. Had

5. Had you any reason to expect such an invitation, or did you from any circumstances expect it?

6. Had you any deputation from the Governor-General, or from any other person, to seek that interview?

7. Had you any leave or encouragement from the Governor-General to go to the Nawaub Vizier on that occasion, other than the assent which might be implied by his not objecting, when you asked whether you might take Captain McRa with you?

8. What was the precise instruction relative to the proposed interview which the Governor-General gave to you, when you afforded him the opportunity of speaking on it by your application respecting Captain McRa?

9. When you accepted the Vizier's invitation, had you any expectation of a private audience of his Excellency?

10. Was the private audience which the Nawaub Vizier gave you on that occasion solicited by you, or was it spontaneous on the part of his Excellency?

11. Did the conversation regarding Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie in that audience originate with you, or was the subject introduced by the Nawaub Vizier?

12. What was the tenor of the Nawaub Vizier's language on that occasion?

13. Did Captain McLeod or Mr. Clarke hint to you previously any by you, in the event of their appealing to you?

ral's breakfast-table. I accepted the invitation on the express condition that his Excellency was not to offer me any presents.

I had no further reason to expect such an invitation, than what might arise from my being personally acquainted with him.

I had no deputation from the Governor-General, or from any other person, to seek that interview.

I had no leave or encouragement from the Governor-General to go to the Nawaub Vizier on that occasion, other than the assent implied by his not objecting when I asked whether I might take Captain McRa with me.

The Governor-General instructed me to ask the Nawaub Vizier, as if from myself, which of the two surgeons it was his Excellency's wish to have attached to him. The Governor-General particularly instructed me not to let it be supposed that he had spoken to me on the subject. I was also, in the event of the Nawaub Vizier's proposing to make up carriages for the Governor-General's cheetahs, to decline the offer.

I had no expectation whatever of a private audience when I accepted the Vizier's invitation.

The private audience was spontaneous on the part of his Excellency.

The subject was introduced by the Nawaub Vizier.

The oppression he suffered from Mirza Jāfer and his sons.

Neither Captain McLeod or Mr. Clarke ever hinted to me that the Nawaub would appeal to me, neither did either of them suggest any tone I was to hold in the event of the Vizier's doing so.

(Signed) WALTER RALEIGH GILBERT.
Governor-General in Council.

(Signed) J. ADAM,
Secretary to the Government.

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To Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie, &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

The attention of the Governor-General having been drawn anew to that despatch for the impropriety of which you were removed from your situation, two circumstances have struck his Excellency as requiring elucidation : I am accordingly directed to require your answers to the points.

In paragraph 22 you state that the accounts of Mehdee Alee Khan exhibit charges of presents made to certain English gentlemen and ladies at Calcutta : you will please to name the individuals stated to have received such presents.

In the postscript you have advanced that Agha Meer was undermined in the confidence of his master the Nawaub Vizier by the representations of native emissaries in the suite of the Governor-General. You will please to point out the individuals to whom you allude.

I have, &c.

Fort-William,
28th January 1816.

(Signed) C. M. RICKETTS,
Chief Secretary.

To C. M. Ricketts, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

Sir :

1. I received your letter, dated the 28th instant, at a late hour of yesterday evening, after I had come on board the Minerva ; but having few of my papers at hand, I am unable at this moment to afford to you so particular an explanation as I could wish of the two points which you have referred to me by order of the Right Honourable the Governor-General.

2. To the best of my recollection and belief, the principal persons who were mentioned in the accounts of Hukeem Mehdee Alee Khan, as noticed in the twenty-second paragraph of my narrative, were the Honourable Lady Hood and General Gillespie, or some other general officer whose name I did not easily make out.

3. The emissaries in the suite of the Governor-General, referred to in the postscript of my narrative, were an agent on the part of Hukeem Mehdee, another on the part of Akbur Alee Khan, whose names I do not recollect, and his Excellency the Vizier's newswriters in attendance on the Governor-General, controlled by Anghun Loll, son of the late Ruttun Chund, and by the Mussulman Darogha of the Kote Gushtee Akhbār, whose name I have at this instant forgotten, but whose ingratitude and enmity to Agha Meer render him very notorious at Lucknow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. BAILLIE.

P.S. It has just occurred to me to refer you to a private letter which I recollect my having written to yourself, in answer to a letter from you dated the 6th of June last, in which some notice must have been taken of the emissaries from Lucknow in your suite. My private letters of the same time to Mr. Adam and Mr. Swinton were probably fuller than those to you, and those gentlemen can inform his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of my sentiments, as explained to them, regarding the intrigues of the natives at Futtygurh and in the capital of Oude.

H. C. Ship Minerva,
30th January, 1816.

(Signed)

Mr. Edmonstone's
Minute,
30 Mar. 1816.

Enclosure No. 2, in Bengal Political Letter, dated 30th March 1816.

MINUTE of MR. EDMONSTONE.

As the general subject of the Right Honourable the Governor-General's Minute, containing his Lordship's remarks and explanations in Colonel Baillie's narrative of transactions at Lucknow is : Members of Council can properly record an opinion that it is not to enter into any discussion of it ; but, as the paragraphs from 82 to 84 of that Minute appear to

principles of action with respect to the state of Oude of a nature deeply affecting the character of that administration, I am confident that his Lordship will not only excuse but approve of my bringing under his notice recorded documents, in which the principles entertained by the Government with respect to those points on which his Lordship has animadverted are distinctly declared. His Lordship has, in the first place, stated some remarks on the construction which should be given to that article of the treaty with the Vizier which conveys to the British Government the privilege of advising him, and imposes on him the obligation of attending to its advice. His Lordship observes, that the privilege cannot justly be extended beyond remonstrance and ultimate interference in extreme cases. That an attempt to fix upon the article in question a more comprehensive sense would be an act of lawless oppression; and his Lordship concludes by intimating that Government had mistaken the nature and extent of the right of counsel. I beg leave, therefore, to refer to the instructions to Colonel Baillie under date the 6th of July 1811, in which that question is discussed in great detail, for the very purpose of shewing that the article in question did not confer on Government a right to enforce its advice except in extreme cases; a right which Government had supposed (although it would seem erroneously) Colonel Baillie to have deduced from it. From a perusal of that document, it will be evident that the Government of the time entertained precisely the sentiments on that question which are expressed in his Lordship's minute.

Enclosures in
Bengal Political
Letter,
30 Mar. 1816.
—
Mr. Edmonstone's
Minute,
30 Mar. 1816.

His Lordship's minute contains the following further observations:

“ Soon after I had occasion to advert to our position relative to Saadut Alee, I became aware of impending consequences which filled me with the utmost alarm. That Prince was driven to actual desperation. He had even openly declared it in full durbar. The mischief had proceeded so far, that if we continued to assert the principle advanced for us, there was no avoiding a decisive struggle. I saw that we were on the brink of being forced in self-defence to possess ourselves of Saadut Alee's dominions and riches, to prevent his throwing himself with all his treasures into the hands of any power that would take the field against us.”

It will be observed from the document already referred to, and from the further instructions of the 19th of July and 2d of August of the same year, that Government neither asserted the right nor entertained the design to enforce the plan of reform. On the contrary, by the instructions of the 6th of July 1811, the Resident was directed to abstain from the further agitation of the subject. It was, indeed, admitted and expressly stated in the documents above referred to, that no plan of reform could be efficient unless the Vizier cheerfully acquiesced in it, and the adoption of it, therefore, was not subsequently pressed upon the Vizier, nor was the discussion renewed till the Vizier himself brought it forward in October 1813 by an intimation of his acquiescence.

As previously applicable to this point, I beg leave here to quote a part of my minute of 10th May 1814.

“ When I was exclusively believed that his Excellency would not cordially consent to the continuation of the system which he had at one time approved, the result was that I was then to desist from urging him, and Government then rested its claim of ascertaining the merits of any case of disturbance for the purpose of which its troops were demanded by the Vizier, and of settling the claims and the conduct of the disputing parties, and we have asserted our right of that right.

“ The reform was revived in consequence of renewed indications of a desire to adopt it. The result has been such as I need not add, that I most fully concurred in the prosecution of it.”

“ I entered into details. All that I am anxious to state is that I distinctly disavowed the principle which was quoted from the Governor-General's minute

Enclosures in
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Letter,
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Mr. Edmonstone's
Minute,
30 Mar. 1816.

minute appear to ascribe to it; nor is it unnatural that I should personally feel an earnest solicitude to free from a charge so severe as that which the passages in question convey, an administration with which I was so closely connected during the whole period of its existence, and of which I had latterly the honour to form a part. Having stated these observations, it is superfluous to advert to the impossibility (so far as I may be supposed to have had a knowledge of the state of affairs at Lucknow) of my recognizing at any period of time the existence of a crisis, such as is described in the passages above cited from the Governor-General's minute.

Fort William,
30th March 1816.

(Signed) N. B. EDMONSTONE.

Enclosure No. 3, in Bengal Political Letter, dated 30th March 1816.

Governor-General's
Minute,
30 Mar. 1816.

MINUTE of the GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The fear of Mr. Edmonstone, lest the credit of the administration preceding that in which I have the honour to bear a part should be injuriously affected by my remarks, appears strained somewhat beyond a correct apprehension.

Whatsoever inaccuracy I may have imputed to any former administration, I attach, in at least an equal degree, to that over which I preside; and when the context is fairly taken, it must be seen that it is myself whom I frankly charge with the great amount of error. The passage which Mr. Edmonstone has recited from my Minute, as conveying a stricture on measures antecedent to my own participation, does not seem to afford a satisfactory support to his position. If there be definiteness in the English language, I should think the phrase, "if *we* continued to assert the principles advanced *for us*," must mean a transaction in which I bore a part, and which of course referred to my own administration. The obvious connexion of this with the letter which I declare to have been drafted by myself to the Nawaub Vizier, and which I shortly after profess to have been written with insufficient knowledge of the case, puts the matter out of question. I have to regret that a discrimination which appears strongly marked, and assuredly was so meant by me, should have escaped Mr. Edmonstone. I speak of the principles advanced *for us*, not of those advanced by us. The construction given to the treaty by Government was just, whensoever that main question was agitated. The policy of the Resident was always to keep out of sight this fundamental principle; but by boldly assuming a deviation from it on the part of the Nawaub, to obtain the sanction of Government for insisting on points which were real infringements of that principle though undetected by us. The canker of our relations in Oude existed in this: that the Resident thought himself nobody, if he did not exhibit himself to the people of Oude as far superior to their Sovereign in authority. With a wholesome doubt of being countenanced in this pretension, he took care not to let it come within the observation of Government: while Government not imagining that so false a conception could be entertained received every piteous and distorted complaint from the Resident respecting the Nawaub Vizier's forwardness as a proof of resistance against the legitimate interference reserved to us by treaty. My firm persuasion is, that whensoever Major Baillie and Saadut Alee restive with regard to the advantages which he solicited any of his adherents, he goaded the Nawaub on the article of Reform, with a multitude of urgency very different from the intentions of Government, knowing to be a subject on which he could ultimately (by having the statement which he made himself) secure the support of Government. The discovery of this practice made me draw the distinction between the principles which Government has as the rule of its procedure and the principles advanced *for us*. As long as I upheld the Resident at the hazard of public inconvenience, the blame which may affect such an error in me, must equally be laid on the error in any preceding administration. It is not the principles which is chargeable to any of us: it is the want of vigilance that wrong principles should not mislead those who acted in our name.

Fort William,
30th March 1816.

Enclosures No. 4, in Bengal Political Letter dated 30th March 1816.

MINUTE of Mr. SETON.

Enclosures in
Bengal Political
Letter,
30 Mar. 1816.

Mr. Seton's
Minute,
30 Mar. 1816.

When first I perused the Minute of the Governor-General on the affairs of Oude, the impression made upon my mind by the perusal, combined with what fell from his Lordship during the course of verbal discussions on the subject, was that the uneasiness manifested by his Lordship in expressing his sense of the critical state of our political relations with the late Vizier had no reference to the proceedings or instructions of the late administration, but that they solely related to the line of conduct pursued by the late Resident at Lucknow. But though such was my own construction of his Lordship's observations, I cannot but consider it as fortunate that Mr. Edmonstone's natural solicitude to guard against the painful effects of possible misconception has led him to bring to the notice of the Governor-General certain passages in the Minute which appear to him to be obviously susceptible of a more comprehensive interpretation, since it has furnished his Lordship with an opportunity of at once gratifying the known liberality of his own mind and relieving that of Mr. Edmonstone, by distinctly stating the extent and tendency of the observations in question.

It is most satisfactory to observe from the instructions cited by Mr. Edmonstone (*viz.* those issued to the late Resident at Lucknow on the 6th July 1811), that with respect to the degree of interference in the internal affairs of the Vizier's Government, which according to the provisions of the treaty concluded with his Excellency in the year 1801 can be regularly exercised by the British Government, the sense entertained by the late administration exactly corresponded with the views of the Governor-General, as described in the Minute now recorded by his Lordship.

Fort-William,
30th March 1816.

(Signed) A. SETON.

EXTRACT POLITICAL LETTER to BENGAL,

Dated the 17th September 1817.

Political Letter
to Bengal,
17 Sept. 1817.

of Lord Moira to the
dated 15th August 1815.*
(6). Referring to a variety
ments for a detail of cer-
nsactions that occurred at
w during the Governor-
's residence at that capi-
his Lordship's observa-
ereon.

Para. 11. We have attentively considered the documents referred to in this paragraph, together with the Governor General's Minute of the 30th November 1814,† containing his view of the extraordinary transactions to which they allude. We do not deem it necessary to enter at length into a discussion of the several points therein brought to our notice; at the same time, we cannot avoid expressing an opinion, that the conduct of Messrs. Law, Clarke, McLeod, and De L'Etang, has not been characterized by a strict adherence to the rules laid down by you, and sanctioned by us, for regulating the intercourse of Europeans with the Native Princes of India, to the due observance of which rules we attach considerable degree of importance. We therefore approve of the Secretary Adam's letter to those gentlemen, dated the 12th November 1814, in compliance with the Governor-General's orders, to signify to his Lordship that he no longer

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ment of the 30th March 1816§ has brought
utenant-Colonel Baillie, late Resident at
purporting to be in explanation of the
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closed

Political Letter
to Bengal,
17 Sept. 1817.

closed in the Governor-General's letter to the Vice-President in Council of the 29th December 1814,* relative to the affairs of Oude.

17. We have attentively considered the Minute recorded by the Governor-General on the 3d November 1815† and the narrative contained in Colonel Baillie's letter, and concur in opinion with his Lordship, that the style and tenor of that despatch rendered the removal of Colonel Baillie from the office of Resident at Lucknow indispensably necessary; a measure to which we observe, by the Minutes recorded by the several Members in Council on your proceedings of the same date, they gave their unqualified assent: we therefore approve of the letter of recall which was written to Colonel Baillie on the 31st October 1815.

18. The conduct of Colonel Baillie in having written a letter containing insinuations so highly offensive to the Governor-General is not to be palliated, and the desire which we always entertain to uphold the dignity of our Governments abroad, compels us to view this breach of duty on the part of Colonel Baillie as highly censurable. Under these impressions, we have no hesitation in expressing our entire approbation of the course pursued by you on that occasion.

19. In addition to the impropriety of that despatch, we see reason to believe that in the course of Colonel Baillie's intercourse with the Vizier he has, on some occasions, exceeded the limits of the instructions issued to him for regulating the degree of his interference in the affairs of Oude.

Letter from
Lieutenant-Colonel
Baillie.

To James Cobb, Esq., Secretary to the Honourable Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

Sir:

I had formerly the honour of apprising you, for the information of the Honourable Court, of my arrival in this country, on furlough, in the month of July last.

The Honourable Court is aware of my having occupied the station of Resident at the Vizier's Court of Lucknow for a period of eight years preceding my departure from India. The nature of my former services, which led to my appointment to that office and to the Honourable Court's confirmation of that appointment, is doubtless in the Court's recollection, and may, if necessary, be referred to in the despatches of the Supreme Government of India to the Honourable the Secret Committee in the years 1805-6 and 7; and more particularly in a letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Honourable Court of Directors, dated the 1st of May 1807, an extract from which is in my possession.

The extraordinary transactions at Lucknow during the two last years of my residence at that Court, which led to my retirement from office and return to this country on furlough, have doubtless been reported to the Honourable Court by the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, and the different or rather the opposite views of those transactions which were taken by the Governor-General and myself, are probably now under consideration.

In a letter from the Secretary to Government in the Secret and Political Department, dated the 31st of October 1815, announcing my removal from Lucknow as the consequence of my despatch to the Government dated the 29th April preceding, I was informed that a communication would be made to me on the subject of that despatch at a future more convenient period. I have recently had reason to believe that a communication on that subject had been received by the Honourable the Court of Directors, and that the Governor-General in Council, in which it was detailed in a manner unfavourable to my character, that you will have the goodness of submitting to the Court of Directors my earnest and anxious wish, as well as that the decision on the question of my removal from Lucknow shall be suspended till I be heard.

